FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

2 MARCH 1987

Lebanon

Damascus Talks — Syrian-Lebanese talks in Damascus over the weekend focused on the "successful implementation" of the security plan resulting from Syria's military assistance, Damascus television reported. The Lebanese delegation included Prime Minister Rashid Karami and militia leaders Nabih Birri and Walid Junblatt, while Syria was represented by Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam and other officials. The Lebanese were "extremely happy" with the success of the security plan, the television said, and they urged that "outlaws" harassing Beirut residents be hunted down. They said security should be handled by one authority and rejected any form of "autonomous security" for Lebanese and Palestinians alike. The conferees also reached agreement on ideas being discussed as a basis for national reconciliation in Lebanon. In this regard, Karami told newsmen after the talks that agreement was reached on a draft plan for political reforms, according to Beirut radio.

Syria and Hizballah — Shaykh Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah, the spiritual leader of Hizballah, told DPA 28 February that he supports the Syrian intervention, despite the "massacre" in Al-Bastah, asserting that Hizballah would not regard a Syrian move into the southern suburb any differently from the deployment in West Beirut. The clandestine Radio Free Lebanon cited reports that some Syrian officers have threatened to turn the southern suburb into "another Hamah" if Hizballah officials maintain intransigent stands toward the Syrians. The radio also reported that the Syrian "occupation army" has banned distribution of critical newspapers, including *Al-Shira'*. As for Iran's view of the conflict between Syria and Hizballah, Tehran radio broadcast a message to Lebanese theologians from Ayatollah Hoseyn 'Ali Montazeri, who stressed the need to strengthen Hizballah and called for the prosecution of those responsible for the "massacre" in Al-Bastah.

Palestinian Camps — A Palestinian source cited by Radio Monte Carlo confirmed that food supplies were allowed into Shatila Camp 27 February, but accused the Amal Movement of confiscating medical supplies sent to the camp. A Dutch nurse inside Burj al-Barajinah accused Amal of committing atrocities against Palestinian women who have left the camp to buy food, according to AFP. Amal-Palestinian clashes continued in the area 28 February, Beirut radio noted.

Amal Rebellion — Amal Movement statements broadcast by Beirut radio downplayed reports of a rebellion by dissident Amal elements in southern Lebanon 1 March, asserting that Amal contained the situation in "most" areas and dealt quickly with a "minor incident" in the Al-Zahrani area. In contrast, Radio Free Lebanon reported that dissidents supporting former Amal official Hasan Hashim succeeded in cutting the coastal road south of Sidon and in taking over most of Amal's positions in the south outside Al-Nabatiyah. The radio added that Hizballah has welcomed the rebellion against Nabih Birri's leadership. Reports by the PSP's clandestine Voice of the Mountain radio also indicated that Hashim's "corrective movement" has made headway. Meanwhile, Birri returned to Beirut 2 March after a lengthy stay in Damascus, according to Voice of Lebanon radio.

Libya

In its 1 March session carried on Tripoli television, the General People's Congress meeting in Sabha elected a new General People's Committee, with only 2 of the 11 secretaries retaining their portfolios. Zaydallah 'Aziz al-Salihi replaced Kamil Hasan Mansur as secretary of the Foreign Liaison Bureau. An "accountability" report delivered to the congress sharply criticized various bureau "shortcomings" and noted that Mansur personally took responsibility for the bureau's "malfunction" and "negligence." The General People's Committee for Information and Culture was also taken to task for its "harmful" mistakes.

One of the foreign policy resolutions passed by the congress stressed the efforts to make U.S. bases "targets wherever they may be in self-defense and in retaliation" for perceived threats to Libya. The resolution also emphasized the need to pressure Italy to work for the expulsion of the U.S.-NATO presence.

Libyan leader Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi arrived in Sabha 28 February, Tripoli radio reported. Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud welcomed the Algerian delegation 1 March, JANA noted. Other foreign guests who arrived for the celebrations of the Jamahiriyah anniversary included Yuriy Solovyev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, and PFLP Secretary General George Habash, the agency reported. According to TANJUG, PNSF leader Sa'id Musa Muragha departed Libya 1 March in protest against the presence of PLO deputy military commander Khalil al-Wazir.

Iran-Iraq War

A communique broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio announced that Iraqi troops repulsed a 28 February offensive on the southern front. Iraqi forces inflicted "thousands" of casualties on the Iranians, the communique said, noting that three divisions of Revolutionary Guards were smashed. According to IRNA, Iraqi forces suffered more than 1,500 casualties and "heavy" material losses in the Iranian "blitz attack." A military spokesman denied Iraqi claims that three Iranian warplanes and three helicopters were downed in the Karbala'-5 theater 28 February-1 March, the agency also reported. In other action, Voice of the Masses radio cited shipping sources that the Iranian tanker *Khark* was the second large maritime target hit by Iraqi warplanes 27 February.

Iran

Majlis Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani called attention to U.S. "blunders" in its relations with the Islamic Republic, in remarks cited by IRNA 27 February. The speaker also criticized the U.S. President's "confusion" and declared that Reagan has become a "laughing stock in political circles. In a 1 March interview with Tehran radio, Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi noted that the "intense bitterness" of the Tower Report attests to the U.S. people's "crisis of confidence" in their leadership.

DRA-Pakistan

A BAKHTAR statement carried 28 February "explicitly, resolutely, and strongly" denied that Afghan warplanes bombed several Pakistani villages along the border. The statement accused Islamabad and Western "imperialist circles" of trying to "sabotage" the Geneva talks and "discredit" the DRA's "earnest policy" on national reconciliation. According to Karachi radio, 31 people were killed and 41 wounded when Afghan planes carried out 2 bombing raids on Kurram Agency 27 February. Pakistani Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo declared the raids a "matter of grave concern" and said that vigilance over the country's airspace has been increased, Karachi radio reported 28 February.

The DRA Foreign Ministry summoned the Pakistani charge to protest a 1 March reconnaissance flight over Nangarhar Province, Kabul radio reported.

Israel

Internal Differences — Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir and Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres continued their argument about an international conference during a "stormy" cabinet session 1 March, Jerusalem radio reported. Shamir subsequently told Jerusalem television that Peres will be undermining the basis of the National Unity government if he continues contacts on the international conference issue. Asked whether the government should resolve the dispute and define Israel's position on the conference, Shamir pointed out that "there is no operative proposal, and therefore there is nothing to vote on and decide about."

Col Sela' and the U.S. — Jerusalem radio reported that IDF circles reacted with "anger and resentment" to the "unwarranted" U.S. demand that the IDF block the promotion and career advance of Colonel Avi'am Sela', who is wanted for questioning by U.S. authorities in connection with the espionage activities of Jonathan Pollard. Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin partially acceded to the U.S. request by postponing the colonel's expected promotion to brigadier general while continuing with plans to offer him a more advanced post, Jerusalem television noted.

Moroccan Visitors — Four Moroccan businessmen arrived on a private visit to Israel 1 March, Jerusalem radio reported, adding that the Moroccans have nothing to do with politics and are interested in purchasing agricultural equipment.

Egypt

An Interior Ministry source stated that 51 extremist students were arrested following a violent protest against fraternization at the Bani Sawayf branch of Cairo University, MENA reported 1 March. The same source said that seven teenagers were arrested in Sawhaj 27 February after extremists incited them to set fire to a church.

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Contacts Begun To Hold Arab Summit Before June

JN281309 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD AL-USBU'I in Arabic 26 Feb 87 pp 1, 22

[By 'Atif 'Awdah]

[Text] Rabat — *Al-Ittihad* has learned that contacts are under way to fix a date for the delayed Arab summit in Riyadh before June. Arab diplomatic sources said these contacts are being coordinated by Algeria and the Arab League on one side and Saudi Arabia and Kuwait on the other. The sources said that at the beginning of March there will be contacts among these countries' foreign ministers and the Arab League secretary general to set the date of the summit.

The sources disclosed that the leaders of Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Kuwait, Syria, and Algeria, who met at the Islamic summit in Kuwait, agreed on the need to hold the summit this year. The sources told *Al-Ittihad* that all the Arab countries agreed to take part in the summit without any conditions provided the agenda be open to discuss all issues the Arab leaders believe to be necessary. The sources stated that the objective of the new move is to guarantee the participation of the Arab leaders at the highest level.

Al-Ittihad also learned that a mini-meeting of a number of Arab foreign ministers will be held after the contacts to fix a date for the summit before the end of June.

Meanwhile, *Al-Ittihad* learned that Saudi Crown Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz will resume his efforts to clear the air between Syria and Iraq and to guarantee their positive participation in the summit, and that these efforts will coincide with the Arab contacts to be held in March.

Klibi Stresses Need for Summit

JN281039 Muscat OMAN DAILY OBSERVER in English 25 Feb 87 p 1

[Text] Arab League Secretary-General Chedli Klibi has reiterated his determination to try for a consensus among member-states to hold an ordinary summit of the League to discuss a number of Arab issues.

In an interview with *'Uman*, the Arabic sister daily of the *Observer*, in Stuttgart, Mr Klibi said the venue of the proposed summit would be Riyadh.

He would not predict when the summit would be held, but said it would be decided soon.

He was speaking on his arrival in Stuttgart in Vertenberg on an invitation from the Prime Minister of that West German state.

Mr Klibi said the Arab League would continue to make contacts with concerned parties to bring about a quick end to the Lebanese crisis.

He added that he respected the points of view of Lebanese leaders and delegations who went to Damascus last week to ask Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad to send his troops to maintain security in West Beriut.

Mr Klibi reiterated his determination not to interfere in the internal affairs of Lebanon. He told *'Uman*, however, that he hoped the plan for deploying Syrian troops in West Beirut, particularly around Palestinian camps, would be fruitful and go a long way in restoring security and stability in Lebanon.

This, in turn, would allow Lebanon to tackle the question of Israeli occupation of its territory, Mr Klibi said, with support from its Arab brothers in the international community.

He said he was particularly concerned with the future of the Palestinians in camps and he was trying his best to protect them from all harm. The Arab League, he pointed out, had discussed this topic at several Executive Council sessions resulting in the setting up of a seven-member special Arab committee.

Mr Klibi said he would continue to strive for the protection of Palestinians in Lebanon and to solve this central Arab issue.

He also spoke about international terrorism. He said the Arab League had explained its position on this issue to the European countries.

"We are in accord with the Europeans in condemning terrorism and will fight it with all means. We differentiate between terrorism and the legitimate struggle of the people for justice and liberty such as the Palestinians, the Lebanese, and the Syrians in the Golan Heights."

PLO Expects No Mideast Peace Conference in 1987

AU271945 Paris AFP in English 1936 GMT 27 Feb 87

[Text] Geneva, Feb 27 (AFP) — The Palestine Liberation Organisation does not expect that a conference on peace in the Middle East will be held this year, PLO second-in-command Faruq Qaddumi said at a meeting of the U.S. Human Rights Commission here Friday.

Mr. Qaddumi, who stressed that the conference was a priority objective, said he thought a lot of work remained to be done before it could be held.

He told a press conference here: "The convening of an international peace conference is not possible this year. I don't foresee it for sometime to come because we have to work on it."

He said of the meeting Friday in Cairo between Israeli Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres and Egyptian President Husni Mubarak: "They are wasting their time and the time of others."

"I doubt that the Israelis are serious about reestablishing peace in this part of the world," he added.

He said the PLO believed that such a conference must be held "within the framework of the United Nations and on the basis of the relevant U.N. resolutions in regards to the cause of Palestine and the Middle East."

Bethlehem Mayor on PLO Role in Peace Conference

JN020826 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 1 Mar 87 pp 26,23

[Text] Amman, *Al-Dustur*/PETRA — Marwan Dudin, minister of occupied territory affairs, yesterday conferred with Ilyas Frayj, mayor of Bethlehem, on the Bethlehem Municipality's affairs and development projects.

Dudin affirmed the ministry's desire to help carry out urgent and essential projects in the occupied territories to serve as many citizes as possible.

In a statement to *Al-Dustur*, Frayj called on Arab and friendly states to back the development plan for the occupied territories.

Frayj pointed out that the Israeli authorities are spending more than $200 million annually on the Israeli settlements built since the 1967 occupation of the West Bank. Yet, he said, there is an obvious Arab failure to support and assist the steadfastness of the kinfolk in the occupied territories.

Regarding other topics which he raised with officials in the Ministry of Occupied Territories Affairs, Frayj said he discussed permitting West Bank citizens to travel to Cairo via Rafah, since this will cost each citizen only 10 dinars and will also help stimulate trade in the occupied territories.

Regarding the international peace conference to resolve the Middle East problem, Frayj supported the principle of negotiation on the basis of exchanging land for peace under international supervision with the participation of the five permanent members of the Security Council and all the parties concerned, especially the PLO.

Replying to a question about Palestinian representation in the conference, Frayj affirmed that the PLO has the power to choose, delegate, or authorize whomever it wants through a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation, provided that the inhabitants of the West Bank and Gaza are represented and that not all the Palestinians are from outside the occupied territories.

Regarding the reactions to the aid given to the teachers in the occupied territories, Frayj explained that all the employees who have benefited from this kind gesture have expressed their profound thanks and gratitude for this daring step, which will undoubtedly improve the economic conditions. Frayj expressed the hope that such aid will be given to all employees of government departments in the West Bank.

PNSF Leader Muragha Leaves Tripoli 'In Protest'

LD012133 Belgrade TANJUG in English 2053 GMT 1 Mar 87

[By Dejan Lukic]

[Text] Tripoli, March 1 (TANJUG) — Col. Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha], leader of the anti-'Arafat coalition, the Palestinian National Salvation Front, today unexpectedly left Tripoli, where he had arrived yesterday to attend the celebrations of the 10th anniversary of the proclamation of the state of Jamahiriyah.

TANJUG has learned the above from confidential sources which claim that Abu Musa left in protest against the presence in Tripoli of Abu Jihad (Khalil al-Wazir), military commander of 'Arafat's "Al-Fatah" and number two man in the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO).

Abu Jihad unexpectedly arrived at Tripoli airport yesterday, heading a delegation of 'Arafat's PLO to the celebrations of the Jamahiriyah anniversary.

Abu Jihad's arrival, as it seems, came as a surprise to the leadership of all factions comprising the anti-'Arafat National Salvation Front, which had sent their highest representatives to attend the central anniversary celebration in the town Sabha in southern Libya.

TANJUG has also learned that the Palestinian National Salvation Front leadership took a decision in Tripoli this afternoon for its representatives not to attend the celebrations at which 'Arafat's envoy is present, since, as stated, that would "be in violation of Libya's own revolutionary line". Apart from Col. Abu Musa, the National Savlation Front meeting was attended by leader of the Popular Front-General Command Ahmad Jibril, leader of the Arab Liberation Front Ya'qub Tal'at, Secretary-General of the Front of Popular Struggle Samir Ghawshah, president of the Palestine National Council (Parliament) since the split Khalid al-Fahum and others.

Abu Musa's departure from Tripoli in protest against the presence of 'Arafat's envoy there followed a number of contacts Libya has had of late directly with 'Arafat's representatives or with Palestinian groups which have taken a middle position between 'Arafat and his opponents.

Abu Jihad, himself, had visited Jamahiriyah early last month. The visit helped rebuild the torn bridges on the Al-Qadhdhafi-'Arafat line but, as is now clear, put Libya's ties with Palestinian radicals to a test.

Fatah Official on Palestinian Unity, Soviet Role

JN271641 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 25 Feb 87 p 20

[Interview with Saqr Yahya Habash, alias Abu Nizar, secretary of the Fatah Revolutionary Council, by Hatim Ghanim in Algiers; date not given]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] [Ghanim] Do you believe internal and external imbalances in Palestinian unity will impede convening the PNC, or do you agree with optimists who say a PNC session will be held in March?

[Habash] We have continually maintained channels of democratic dialogue between us and those with whom we differ. Differences are always permissible; the only thing prohibited is fighting. However, we used to say we must forget some of the wounds, to the extent that we have left vacant some seats in the PNC. There are Palestinian organizations with whom we differ and who enjoy a certain degree of independence, such as the DFLP, the Palestinian Communist Party, and the PFLP. Thus we talk to the brothers in these organizations. They did not resort to force and were not led astray by inducements to clashes.

They have seen — and their position now is better than before — that those raising the slogan of ousting 'Arafat did not want to get rid of 'Arafat but wanted to get rid of the Palestinian cause and the Palestinian people and all that is sacred to the Palestinian cause. When these brothers saw what was happening in the Palestinian camps [in Lebanon], their rank and file began fighting alongside all sincere Palestinians, foremost of whom are the Fatah fighters within the camps. That is what is happening now. [Passage omitted]

We value the stand of Walid Junblatt, who is proceeding in his father's footsteps and who says the basic pan-Arab [qawmiyah] cause is the Palestinian people's cause. He is fighting, in one way or another, the evacuation or expulsion of Palestinians from the camps and the destruction of these camps. That is regarding the external situation. As for the internal situation, one now feels that weak-minded people have become directly connected with the intelligence services and not with any organizations. When we see at a conference brothers from the DFLP, the Palestinian Communist Party, and the PFLP alongside the shining faces of the independent brothers, we say the purpose is to achieve national unity. The people definitely know who is fighting the Palestinian people. The basis now is not affiliation with an organization, for the organization of Palestine and the Palestinians is bigger than any other organization.

[Ghanim] The Palestinians within the occupied territory are in fact united. Even outside Palestine they are united. The Palestinian rifles were united in the camps. How can the political leaders and Palestinian factions be united?

[Habash] It is not only we in the Fatah leadership who are working for such an objective, but leaders in the DFLP and the Palestinian Communist Party are also working for this objective through regular meetings following the Prague statement and the initiative made by the brothers in Algeria to strengthen Palestinian national unity and to heal past wounds. Some of the brothers in the Soviet Union are also making every effort to strengthen national unity among leaders of independent factions, and they are in agreement with Fatah on this issue. We support every effort to strengthen national unity. We constantly strive to end any rift or fight with Syria. When the basic major conflict is with the Zionist enemy, the freezing of any conflict with any Arab force will help the major conflict. Anyone who does not stop such a secondary conflict is mistaken. As Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] has said, we in the Fatah leadership constantly strive and cooperate to protect our people and camps, but from a position of mutatis mutandis, and not from a position of subservience. The Palestinian cause is founded on independence and Palestinian national independence. [passage omitted]

[Ghanim] I believe that as a former PLO ambassador in Moscow, you are the person best qualified to talk about Moscow's role in strengthening Palestinian national unity. How would you describe such a role?

[Habash] We can begin with a principled evaluation of the consistent Soviet stand on the Palestinian question. The Soviet Union has a clear principled stand in support of the Palestinian people's cause, a stand which always favors the will of the Palestinian people who have the right of self-determination and the right to elect their leaders. Consequently, the Soviet Union has always opposed all attempts by any state to influence or manipulate the PLO's internal unity or to undermine the PLO's independence. The Soviet Union has always emphasized recognition of the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. That is very important. They would see that for some reason or other, and for compelling reasons, there were forces outside the Palestinian canopy in the PLO, such as the Palestinian Communist Party, the DFLP, and PFLP. The Soviet Union always helped us to talk to the brothers in these organizations so they could join the PLO's correct path under Abu 'Ammar's leadership toward the basic goal — Palestine — through unity.

The Soviet stand was clear, correct, and sound. Even the conference of the Union of Palestinian Writers and Journalists was to a great extent the outcome of our participation in inviting independent factions to the conference. The Soviet role should be prasied. Despite everything, the Soviet Union was able on some issue to present their proposals so they were acceptable to the various parties, particularly parties in the Palestinian arena. [passage omitted]

'Arafat on Palestinian Unity, Hostages

JN281703 Sanaa Voice of Palestinian in Arabic 1600 GMT 28 Feb 87

[Text] Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], PLO Executive Committee chairman and commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, has affirmed that Palestinian ranks are currently more united than ever before. Brother Abu 'Ammar said meetings and contacts are continuing with leaders of various factions to entrench national unity which was reinforced by the siege of the refugee camps in Beirut.

In a statement to the Qatari *Akhbar al-Usbu'* weekly magazine, Brother Abu 'Ammar described the situation in Lebanon as strangely complicated. Brother Abu 'Ammar warned that the onslaught against the national Lebanese movement is part of the scheme to establish sectarian cantons and balkanize the entire region. Brother Abu 'Ammar condemned the method of kidnapping and abducting hostages, which he described as the crime of the age. He affirmed the PLO will not spare any effort to participate in resolving the issue of hostages in Lebanon.

PNSF Supports for Syrian Deployment in Beirut

JN272021 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 27 Feb 87

[Text] The Palestine National Salvation Front [PNSF] has paid tribute to the Syrian Arab troops' entry into West Beirut and also to the Syrian Arab role in Lebanon and its pan-Arab objectives, which seek to restore peace and order to Beirut.

In a statement issued in Beirut today, the PNSF leadership said restoring security to West Beirut was the prelude to stopping the painful incidents that the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples have suffered. The PNSF statement added that the entry of foodstuffs and supplies into Palestinian camps is evidence of Syrian eagerness to end the camps' isolation and to help restore these areas to normal life.

The statement emphasized that the Syrian Arab initiative seeks to unify and rally nationalist Palestinian energies and efforts under the leadership of fraternal Syria to confront the Zionist-imperialist-reactionary enemies and to help implement the Damascus agreement on the camps. The statement added: We, on behalf of our Palestinian people's masses inside and outside the camps, praise these positive steps, fully confident fraternal Syria will always continue to lead other forces in the march for unification, liberation, and security.

Khalaf on Syrian Actions, Hostages, PNC Meeting

JN281231 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD AL-USBU'I in Arabic 26 Feb 87 pp 3, 22

[By Basimah Nafadi]

[Text] Tunis — Fatah Central Committee member Salah Khalaf, also known as Abu Iyad, has announced that April will be the month of the comprehensive Palestinian dialogue and of the PNC. In an exclusive statement to *Al-Ittihad*, Salah Khalaf expressed his fears that the Syrian military entry into Beirut might have negative repercussions on the Palestinian presence [in Lebanon]. At the same time, Khalaf expressed his hope that Syria will assume its complete responsibility to the Palestinians in Lebanon.

Abu Iyad noted that he and the Palestinian delegation now visiting Algeria discussed with President Chadli Bendjedid the national Palestinian unity, the repercussions of the Syrian military's entry into West Beirut on the Palestinian camps in Lebanon, the disarming of Palestinians, and the makings of another Tripoli [massacre] in Sidon. Abu Iyad expressed his hope that Syria will shoulder its direct responsibility for what could happen to the Palestinians. However, he expressed his fears that the Syrian intervention might have negative repercussions on the Palestinian presence in Lebanon. He said: Our history taught us to be alert. We have been waging grinding battles with the Syrian regime for 5 years. Therefore, I believe we have the right to question the Syrian entry into Beirut on the Palestinian level, not on the Lebanese level.

On the deterioration of relations between the Syrian forces and Hizballah, Abu Iyad said: This will have a negative effect on the release of the four university professors. According to the information Khalaf received 48 hours ago, Hizballah was ready to hand the professors over to the Syrian authorities provided that this would be the last Syrian request. He added that in light of the developments last Tuesday, he does not know whether the deal will be concluded. Khalaf drew attention to the fact that the Iranian foreign minister and the revolutionary guards cut short their visit to Damascus, noting the existence of differences between Syria and Iran. He stated that all foreign hostages in Beirut are held by Hizballah, and that the Islamic Jihad, the Islamic Jihad for the Liberation of Palestine, and the Revolutionary Justice are the names of one organization, expressing the currents inside Hizballah which have repercussions in the Lebanese arena and extensions in the Iranian arena.

Salah Khalaf affirmed that Terry Waite, the Anglican church envoy, paid $2 million to free David Jacobsen.

On the comprehensive Palestinian dialogue, Khalaf said that it will begin in April and that it will focus on an idea that was presented last year: the convening of the PNC. He affirmed that Algeria welcomed the proposal and noted that it is ready to host the PNC when informed of their readiness. He said the PNC session will not be held after April because it is supposed to be held before the holy month of Ramadan, which comes at the end of April. He said April will be the month of the PNC.

On the Syrian forces' entry into Beirut, Abu Iyad said: We do not discuss whether this is legal, because this is a Lebanese affair. The PLO considers this a delicate issue that must not be dealt with. We deal with this issue primarily in light of its effect on the siege of the camps.

PLO Urges Iran To Stop Supporting Amal

JN012032 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 1 Mar 87

["Text" of statement issued by PLO "official" spokesman — date not given]

[Text] [Iranian Majlis Speaker] Hojjat Ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani has stated that the death of 23 Hizballah members is a very painful piece of news and that the culprits must be punished. We might denounce this odious crime and ask God to have mercy on these righteous martyrs, but we would like to remind Hojjat Ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rasfsanjani that 4,800 of our people in the camps, mostly women and children, were either killed or wounded in the recent round of attacks on the Palestinian camps in the south and Beirut, and that the perpetrators of this crime are the Amal gangs which, regrettably, are supported by Iran, which provides them with moral and material assistance and with weapons and military hardware. The Israeli forces in southern Lebanon, with their Air Force, Navy, and artillery, and the renegade forces in Beirut with their tanks, missiles, special forces, and artillery participate with the Amal gangs in these crimes and aggressions, which continue to take place as part of a campaign of mass extermination against the Palestinian children, women, and men — a campaign for the total destruction of our camps over the heads of their inhabitants, transforming the camps into mass graves for our kinfolk, women, and children.

We ask Tehran and the Iranian officials to halt their support for the Amal gangs and the sectarian renegade regime, which commit their crimes against our people and the Lebanese people on the territory of fraternal Lebanon to complete the massacres and wars of extermination that the Zionist enemy launched against our people and nation in southern Lebanon and occupied Palestine.

PLO Warns Amal, Others Against Continued Siege

JN012030 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 1 Mar 87

[Text] The PLO has warned the Amal gangs and the renegade forces against the consequences of continuing to confiscate the medicine and foodstuffs UNRWA tries to bring into the camps. The PLO appealed to international and humanitarian organizations to exert efforts and pressure the rulers of the renegade regime to lift the siege on our camps and allow medicine and foodstuffs in.

Klibi Receives Fatah Officials in Tunis 28 Feb

JN012043 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 1 Mar 87

[Text] Arab League Secretary General Brother Chedli Klibi received Fatah Central Committee members Brothers Abu Iyad [Salah Khalaf] and Abu al-Lutf [Faruq Qaddumi] in Tunis yesterday. The discussion during the meeting dealt with the agenda of the seven-member Arab League committee which is expected to hold its meetings in Tunis today. They also reviewed the situation in the Palestinian camps in Lebanon.

Ministerial Committee Issues Camps Statement

LD020218 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 1 Mar 87

[Text] The Arab ministerial committee dealing with the situation in the Palestinian camps in Lebanon ended its sixth meeting yesterday [1 Mar] in Tunis. A press statement released after the meeting said that the committee, after a review of its efforts to implement the security plan approved by the Arab League Council, has decided:

First: To continue its efforts to provide supplies and medicine to the camps;

Second: To form a nucleus consisting of representatives from the Arab League General Secretariat, the General Secretariats of the Arab Red Cross and Cresent, and the Executive Bureau of the [Arab League] Health Ministers' Council to leave for Beirut to monitor health and nutrition conditions in full coordination with the UNRWA;

Third: To contact the Syrian Government with a view to cooperatingwith it in implementing the security plan of Syrian forces in Beirut, a matter which will facilitate security in the capital and its suburbs.

PLO's Khalaf Denies Links With Red Brigades

AU271443 Rome ANSA in English 1245 GMT 27 Feb 87

[Text] (ANSA) Tunis, February 27 — Reported links between the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and Italy's urban guerilla organisation the Red Brigades were denied this morning in a statement issued by PLO security chief Abu Iyad [Salah Khalaf]

[The] Accusation that the automatic weapons used in the February 14 attack on a post office in Rome in which 2 policemen died were supplied to the Red Brigades by the PLO in 1979 are false, the statement claims, and are designed to harm good relations presently existing between the Italian authorities and Yasir 'Arafat's PLO.

Qaddumi Hits U.S. Support of 'Racist' Regimes

JN281712 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 28 Feb 87

[Text] Brother Abu al-Lutf [Faruq Qaddumi], PLO Political Department chief, has assailed the United States for its continuing support and backing for racist and oppressive regimes in the world, such as the Zionist entity in Palestine and the white minority regime in South Africa. In a speech before the UN Human Rights Commission yesterday, Brother Abu al-Lutf said that despite UN resolutions banning sending arms to South Africa, the United States and Israel have continued to extend political, military, and economic assistance to this racist country.

Brother Abu al-Lutf also noted the close cooperation between the two racist entities in South Africa and Palestine in the nuclear field, including the manufacture of nuclear weapons. Brother Abu al-Lutf added that the dispatch of mercenaries by the United States to fight against nationalist Nicaragua is a serious violation of human rights.

On the Middle East, Brother Abu al-Lutf said the United States and Isreal have rejected all peace initiatives in the region. He urged the international community to shoulder its responsibility regarding attacks on Palestinian refugee camps in Lebanon and the Amal siege on the refugee camps in Beirut and southern Lebanon. In this regard, Brother Abu al-Lutf affirmed the PLO's commitment to Lebanon's independence, national unity, and complete sovereignty on its national soil and its desire to coordinate with the concerned Lebanese sides to end the suffering of the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples.

KUWAIT

Oil Minister Denies Overproduction of OPEC Quota

LD011103 Kuwait KUNA in English 0825 GMT 1 Mar 87

[Text] Kuwait, March 1 (KUNA) — Kuwait's Oil Minister Shaykh 'Ali al-Khalifa has flatly denied rumours in the international oil market that Kuwait was overproducing its OPEC quota.

The minister dismissed the rumours as "nonsense" which was based on press reports that Kuwait can produce in excess of its production quota of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries.

In a statement published in Kuwaiti daily *Al-Qabas* Shaykh 'Ali ironically remarked that the accusation implied that Kuwait has been "unusually smart" in managing to market its overproduction while other producers could hardly sell their quotas.

The minister noted that Kuwait had to lose a number of customers for insisting to sell at the OPEC official price. But he said the country's foreign distribution network and local refineries "guarantee" full marketing of Kuwait's production quota.

He, meanwhile, denied speculations that OPEC would hold an emergency meeting, and said no OPEC member has made a request to that effect.

He also dismissed reports in the Gulf region that an OPEC committee on price differentials would meet this week. To the contrary, he said, a committee meeting scheduled for March 9 had been postponed at the request of committee members.

He predicted that pressures on OPEC to undercut prices would continue through April "then the situation would start to improve again."

OMAN

Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id Issues Four Decrees

JN011620 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 1 Mar 87

[Text] His Majesty Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id has issued four decrees: Decree No 8, 1987, whereby Muhammad ibn 'Ali ibn Nasir al-'Alawi is given the rank of minister and appointed secretary general of the Legislative Council at the office of the deputy prime minister for legal affairs; Decree No 9, 1987, whereby the name of the Higher Committee for GCC Conferences is changed to the Higher Committee for Conferences, and is reformed under the deputy prime minister for legal affairs with the deputy prime minister for financial and economic affairs, the interior minister, the minister of state for foreign affairs, the minister of industry and commerce, the minister of information, his majesty the sultan's adviser on economic planning, the chief of the palace office, the secretary general of the legislative council, the secretary general of the committee, and the Council of Ministers secretary as members; Decree No 10, 1987, whereby Ibrahim ibn Humud al-Subhi is given the rank of minister and appointed secretary general of the Higher Committee for Conferences; and Decree No 11, 1987, whereby the organizational structure of the office of the deputy prime minister for legal affairs is readjusted.

SAUDI ARABIA

King Fahd on Lebanon, Summit, Other Issues

PM271213 London AL-HAWADITH in Arabic 27 Feb 86 p 17-18

[Interview with King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz of Saudi Arabia by Karam Milhim Karam in Riyadh; date not given]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] Milhim Karam: What are the objectives of your visit to London scheduled for next month? Is it part of a Saudi plan to consolidate ties with Europe on the basis of the Saudi foreign policy charted by King Fahd? How far do the Arabs rely on Europe?

King Fahd: Our ties with Europe are historical and deep-rooted. We are anxious to promote them and widen their scope. Our visit to Britain falls within this framework. Europe, as you know, has great weight and influence on the course of international politics. Therefore, it is of considerable importance to continue the dialogue to facilitate a mutual and better understanding that could be positively exploited in the interest of our Arab causes that need help and support on all levels.

Milhim Karam: Will Lebanon's ordeal come to an end and are there any promising signs in this regard in the light of what happened during the Kuwait summit? Will Saudi Arabia continue to give every possible help and assistance to this ever-bleeding homeland? What about the camps war?

King Fahd: There are signs that inspire optimism — that Lebanon is gradually coming closer to overcoming the tragedy from which it has suffered so much and which is extremely painful for us. Therefore, you can see that the Saudi Arabian Kingdom is concentrating its efforts on all fronts to move quickly to alleviate the tragedy and, at the same time, to cooperate with the brothers and friends to create better conditions for those concerned in Lebanon to reach a logical and practical formula that will achieve security and stability in which Lebanese society may enjoy a dignified life.

With regard to the Palestinian camps, their condition is even more painful, particularly in recent times because of the situation surrounding them — a situation which has been and continues to be condemned by everybody. Therefore, we reiterate the appeal to the brothers concerned in the matter to devote to this humanitarian issue all the attention it deserves until God permits the Palestinian brothers to return to their land and establish an independent state of their own.

Milhim Karam: It is being said that Arab problems can only be resolved simultaneously within the framework of an international conference to be attended by the Soviet Union during which the Lebanese problem, the Palestinian problem, and the Gulf war will be brought to an end. Does this mean we have to wait for such a conference to convene, and does the Kingdom agree to such a conference?

King Fahd: The Saudi Arabian Kingdom is well aware that the world's problems are intermingled. For this reason we take every opportunity to call for action in every direction and at all levels — the Arab, Islamic, and international levels. We do so to benefit from all the quarters which we deem to be well disposed toward finding solutions that would enjoy the support of the world community and, at the same time, are acceptable to the parties concerned. In this regard I would say that what primarily matters to us is that our causes should win in a positive manner, in which case we would be very thankful and appreciative toward those who bring this about.

Milhim Karam: Speaking of the fifth Islamic summit in Kuwait, did this conference achieve its objectives and how far did it succeed in doing so?

King Fahd: Thank God, the fifth Islamic summit achieved great success. All that we hope for is that the heads, leaders, and peoples of the Islamic world will persist in their resolve and determination to implement the resolutions adopted by this major conference.

Milhim Karam: Was the five-man summit which was held on the periphery of the Kuwait conference and included King Fahd, President al-Asad, Kuwait ruler Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad, King Husayn, and Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid preparatory to convening an imminent Arab summit and did it succeed in removing differences among the brothers and pave the way to a successful summit?

King Fahd: The five-man summit which was held on the periphery of the Kuwait conference and which I had the pleasure of attending was in fact a good opprtunity to hold consultations on many issues concerning joint Arab action. We hope that the conference results will have positive effect on the issues, both basic and side issues, that were discussed, including the question of an imminent Arab summit.

Milhim Karam: Does the GCC possess a combat force of such size that one would hope it would be able to stand up to challenges? Is it true that there are international guarantees for the region and that there are red lines that nobody can cross? Does the United States have bases in the Gulf or has it asked for such bases?

King Fahd: The GCC has a comprehensive defense force established for the purpose of defending the realm of the countries of the region and protecting the political decision. At the same time it is a shield for the Arab and Islamic nation and contributes as much as it can in this direction. With regard to the red lines you referred to, they do not concern us because, as a matter of principle, we refuse to allow our countries to be turned into spheres of influence for the East or the West.

Milhim Karam: Reports are being circulated about changes and alterations in the ministries and the provincial administrations that would involve amirs, ministers, and deputy ministers. How true is this?

King Fahd: Such reports are circulated from time to time. Perhaps they are based on deductions in which the citizens customarily indulge, knowing that the government seeks to improve the efficiency of the government administration by benefiting from new capabilities. Actually, the matter is no more than an attempt to achieve greater efficiency and better organization.

Milhim Karam: Minister of Petroleum and Mineral Affairs Hisham Nazir visited the Soviet Union. Following his visit, Moscow reiterated its desire to establish diplomatic relations with the Kingdom. Will the carrying out of the Soviets' intention to withdraw from Afghanistan — as they promised they would — be a justification for the establishment of such relations?

King Fahd: In fact the Saudi oil minister's visit to the Soviet Union had positive results. We are carefully studying all that has resulted from this visit with a view to achieving interests in the economic field.

Milhim Karam: Has the U.S. campaign against the Kingdom affected the soundness of Saudi-U.S. relations?

King Fahd: Our relations with the United States are historical and can be dated back to the era of King 'Abd al-'Aziz, may God's mercy be upon him. As for the negative irritations, we do not pay any attention to them because we know their sources and their motives. We are certain that they do not represent the views of the friendly American people who through their humanitarian stand always proved their support for the causes of right and justice.

Milhim Karam: Do you believe, Your Majesty, that King Fahd's plan which the Fes summit endorsed is still a suitable framework for solving the Palestinian problem or should some changes be made to it?

King Fahd: The plan no longer bore my name after it was adopted by the Fes Arab summit; since then it has become an Arab proposal. In my view this plan is a practical framework in view of the logical and realistic principles on which it is based.

Milhim Karam: How does the Kingdom view its relations with the new regime in southern Yemen, particularly because the former president says that he is still the country's legitimate ruler?

King Fahd: On the basis of the unequivocal and declared policy of the Saudi Arabian Kingdom we do not concern ourselves with the internal affairs of sisterly and friendly states, because this is their own concern. What we want is to ensure the existence of a basis on which a close and intimate relationship is established with the existing regimes and to continually develop this relationship in the interest of joint Arab action.

Milhim Karam: The Arabs regard King Fahd as their wise man and the progenitor of the call for Arab awakening as well as a party acceptable to all the parties. On the basis of this reality, will any urgent steps be taken to end the Gulf war and stop the painful bleeding?

King Fahd: In fact, it is a kind gesture on the part of the brothers who express such a good opinion of me. I thank them for this and I would like to make it clear that what I am doing is an endeavor that draws on the lessons I learn from sitting with the brother leaders — their majesties, their highnesses, and their excellencies. With regard to the Iraq-Iran war, it is the focus of attention. What we hope for is that the resolutions of the fifth Islamic summit in Kuwait will be translated into practical action in this direction. This is not impossible for God. What matters is that there should be joint efforts and sincere intentions.

Milhim Karam: The oil price is once again rising to what it used to be before. What about the dollar price and will it rise or drop?

King Fahd: Oil is a strategic commodity that is important for the whole world. Its price must remain as stable as possible, increasing or decreasing at rates compatible with the purchasing power needed to buy other commodities. The same formula applies to the dollar in one way or another on the grounds that it is one of the world's principal convertible currencies.

Milhim Karam: Is there a particular word King Fahd, the friend of Lebanon, would like to address to the Lebanese? Is it true that you will sponsor the Lebanese-Syrian summit if it meets with any difficulties and therefore invite Presidents al-Jumayyil and al-Asad to Riyadh?

King Fahd: For us Lebanon is the home of nature and beauty and of culture and thought. For us Lebanon is the kinsfolk and the homeland. [as published] It is because of this that the killing and destruction taking place on its soil today is very painful to us. There is no use shedding tears over the past because this will be of no avail. However, we would like to emphasize and remind our brothers who have a say in Lebanon that they should be fearful of God in dealing with their own and should work jointly and in solidarity to end the ordeal that has led the country into this incredibily difficult situation. We are confident that their wisdom and astuteness will prompt them toward such action. We are waiting hopefully. We would like to add that the Saudi Arabian Kingdom opens its arms and heart to any step in this direction as long as the result will be the restoration of security and stability to the land of this noble Arab country.

Oil Minister Confirms Commitment to OPEC Accord

LD012120 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1900 GMT 1 Mar 87

[Text] Riyadh, 1 Mar (SPA) — The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia is committed to the letter and spirit of the OPEC agreement. This was stated by Hisham Nazir, petroleum and mineral resources minister and acting planning minister in reply to a question put to him by SPA regarding the drop in oil prices. He said that the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia is committed to the letter and spirit of the OPEC agreement and will under no circumstances sell its oil for less than the declared prices. He emphasized that the Kingdom's credibility on this score is quite clear in the oil market. On the causes of the drop in prices, his excellency said: The recent pressure on the spot market prices can be attributed to many factors such as the fact that the winter season is nearing its end and the fact that there continues to be an oil surplus in the market. He added, however, that some reports indicate that the spot market dealers may commit themselves to more supplies than they can provide at the reduced prices, which means that they will not be able to honor their commitments.

Concluding his statement, Hisham Nazir said all the contacts made so far confirm that OPEC members wish to continue to honor their commitment to the agreement and that spontaneous restoration of balance is anticipated.

Netherlands Prime Minister, Delegation Arrive

LD281927 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1850 GMT 28 Feb 87

[Text] Riyadh, 28 Feb (SPA) — Netherlands Prime Minister Ruud Lubbers has arrived in Riyadh this evening on a visit to the Kingdom. He was welcomed at King Khalid International Airport by His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, the foreign minister; the chief of protocol 'Isa al-Nuwaysir; the Deputy Chief of Royal Protocol Muhammad al-Tubayshi; and the Netherlands ambassador to the Kingdom. The delegation which is accompanying him includes Netherlands Foreign Minister Hans van den Broek.

Lubbers, Petroleum Minister Meet

LD011455 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0922 GMT 1 Mar 87

[Excerpts] Riyadh, 1 Mar (SPA) — His Excellency Hisham Nazir, minister of petroleum and mineral resources and acting minister of planning, met with Netherlands Prime Minister Ruud Lubbers this morning. [passage omitted]

During the meeting, joint cooperation between the Kingdom and the Netherlands and various means of strengthening it were discussed.

Foreign Ministers Confer

LD011506 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1100 GMT 1 Mar 87

[Excerpts] Riyadh, 1 Mar (SPA) — Foreign Minister, His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, met this morning with Netherlands Foreign Minister Hans van den Broek, who is paying a visit to the Kingdom. During the meeting, bilateral relations between the two countries were discussed. The talks also covered the situation in the Middle East region with regard to the latest European statement, which calls for the holding of an international conference. His highness and the Netherlands minister also discussed developments in the Iraq-Iran war, and Gulf-European and Arab-European relations in general. [passage omitted]

The Netherlands foreign minister is on a visit to the Kingdom in the framework of the visit of Netherlands Prime Minister Lubbers.

Meet With King Fahd

LD011443 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1415 GMT 1 Mar 87

[Excerpt] Riyadh, 1 Mar (SPA) — King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, custodian of the two holy mosques, may God protect him, today received Netherlands Prime Minister Ruud Lubbers, who was accompanied by Netherlands Foreign Minister Hans van den Broek, in his office at the Royal Court. [passage omitted]

Official Backs EEC-GCC Accord

LD020539 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2220 GMT 1 Mar 87

[Text] Riyadh, 1 Mar (SPA) — The Netherlands foreign minister, Hans van den Broek, described his country's relations with the Kingdom as close and advanced, stressing that the Netherlands and the EEC countries appreciate the Kingdom's prominent role in the search for peace and stability in the region.

In a news conference this evening in Riyadh he expressed his and his excellency, the Netherlands prime minister's, pleasure at meeting today the custodian of the two holy mosques, King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, God protect him, and said the talks the Netherlands prime minister and his accompanying delegation had with His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister, defense and aviation minister, and inspector general; his royal highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, foreign minister; and his excellency the petroleum and mineral resources minister and acting planning minister, Hisham Nazir; dealt with bilateral relations between the Kingdom and the Netherlands, the situation in the Middle East region, and the international situation in general.

The Netherlands foreign minister explained that his country backs the conclusion of an economic cooperation agreement between the GCC and the EEC countries. He added that such an agreement is significant economically and politically because it will provide mutual opportunities for consultation between the two sides on various topics of mutual interest.

Regarding the EEC countries' attitude on the Middle East question, the Netherlands foreign minister stated the European countries have declared their readiness in their recent meeting to participate in the peace process in the region. He added that the 12 EEC countries have decided to contribute to a program designed to improve the living standard of the population of the occupied Arab territories.

Delegation Departs

LD020615 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2054 GMT 1 Mar 87

[Text] Riyadh, 1 Mar (SPA) — Netherlands Prime Minister Ruud Lubbers and the accompanying delegation left Riyadh for India this evening following a 2-day visit to the Kingdom. He was seen off at the airport by His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, the foreign minister; chief of protocol at the Foreign Ministry, Ambassador Isa al-Nuwaysir; deputy chief of royal protocol, Mr Muhammad 'Abd al-Rahman al-Tubayshi; and the Netherlands ambassador to the Kingdom, (?Count) Roland Hego.

PDRY

Foreign Minister Receives Omani Delegation

EA282107 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 28 Feb 87

[Excerpts] Brother Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Dali, Political Bureau member and foreign minister, received at his office this afternoon the Omani delegation currently visiting our country and which is led by Shaykh Muhammad ibn 'Ali al-Qutaybi, deputy chairman of the Civil Service Council in the Sultanate of Oman.

The delegation is to take part in the fourth meeting of the Joint Technical Committee on the borders of the PDRY and the Sultanate of Oman.

During the meeting, which was attended by Brother Mutahhar Musid Muslih, Central Committee member, deputy interior minister and chairman of the technical committee representing our country, and a number of officials from the Foreign Ministry, relations between the two fraternal countries were discussed together with methods of developing them, in addition to other issues of common interest. [passage omitted]

Brother Muhammad ibn 'Ali al-Qutaybi expressed in a statement to the *Aden News Agency* his pleasure, and that of his delegation, at the convening of the technical committee on the borders in Aden, an old Arab city. He praised in his statement the wise policy pursued by the leadership in the two countries since the signing of the principle agreement in the State of Kuwait to develop relations between the two countries for the benefit of their common interests and the restoration of family relations between the sons of the region to its historical character.

Shaykh Muhammad al-Qutaybi explained that the committee had held a number of meetings in Abu Dhabi, Kuwait, and Muscat and pointed out that this meeting is characterized by the fact that it is being held in Aden to facilitate meeting with our brothers in Democratic Yemen in this good land.

He said the meeting in Democratic Yemen will discuss the subjects raised in the earlier meetings. He expressed the hope, in this connection, that the talks would lead to positive results.

Mubarak, King Husayn To Visit U.S. in March

JN281022 Doha QNA in Arabic 0955 GMT 28 Feb 87

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 28 Feb (QNA) — Press reports here today said Egyptian President Muhammad Husni Mubarak and Jordan's King Husayn will meet in Washington during the first half of March. *Al-Ittihad* says in a report from Cairo the Egyptian president and King Husayn will visit Washington after the U.S. Administration showed support for Egypt and Jordan regarding the international conference during the enemy Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir's visit to the American capital.

The paper adds the Egyptian president changed his stand on going to Washington after the U.S. ambassador in Cairo informed him the U.S. Administration is ready to discuss some new ideas about the interest on Egypt's military debts.

Meanwhile, *Al-Ittihad* cited a senior Egyptian source as saying the issue of Palestinian representation in the international conference was the basic obstacle that faced the Egyptian president and Israel's Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres during their recent talks in Cairo. The source added Shim'on Peres expressed some reservations about some Palestinian names presented to him because those people are known for their official affiliation with the PLO.

Visit Date Not Set

JN281153 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 26 Feb 87 p 1

[Text] *Al-Ahram's* political editor has learned talks concerning President Muhammad Husni Mubarak's visit to the United States are still continuing. The date of the visit will be fixed in light of President Mubarak's internal engagements and the People's Assembly elections.

The Washington Post reported the president declined an invitationto visit Washington. *Al-Ahram* affirms this did not take place.

AL-JUMHURIYAH on Tower Report, U.S. Credibility

NC272223 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2113 GMT 27 Feb 87

[Text] Cairo, 27 Feb (MENA) — The newspaper *Al-Jumhuriyah* asserts the United States will be able to salvage its credibility in the world, which collapsed following the revelations of the Irangate scandal, if it pursues its interests on the basis of the principles of justice, preservation of human rights, support for just peace, and the resolution of international crises through wise political action.

In its Saturday editorial, the paper remarks that the report issued by the Tower commission, which investigated the Irangate scandal, has had numerous repercussions both inside and outside the United States and has confirmed the collapse of U.S. credibility and the contradiction between the implementation of U.S. policy and U.S. claims about safeguarding peace and the forces of right and good.

The paper notes the report's criticism of U.S. President Reagan because he did not pay due attention to the United States' true interests and acted instead on the illusive hope of securing the hostages' release covertly, covering up this action with a still more peculiar one when he approved the diversion of the profits from the arms sales to Iran to the contra rebels in Nicaragua, despite the fact that Congress had prohibited such dealings.

The newspaper also notes the Tower commission report described the way in which President Reagan's administration acted as unprincipled [munhallah], and affirms this scandal will stay with Reagan and the Republican Party just as the Watergate scandal stuck firmly to the Republicans and Nixon.

Further Reportage of Visit by Israel's Peres

Cairo News Conference Detailed

NC271459 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1410 GMT 27 Feb 87

[Text] Cairo, 27 Feb (MENA) — Israeli Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres has declared his meeting with President Husni Mubarak and his talks in Cairo were fruitful. He said most of the subjects discussed in these talks focused on the issue of peace in the Middle East.

In a statement he made before his departure from Cairo, Peres explained the exchange of views between Egypt and Israel will continue, so the peace process may be advanced in coming days.

He said: We are ready to move forward, for peace can only be achieved through direct negotiations. Peace must be achieved through serious and productive contacts.

Asked by newsmen about Syria's inclusion in the peace process, Peres said the Syrians themselves must decide whether or not to join the peace process.

At a news conference he held before departing Cairo, Peres reiterated his talks and discussions in Cairo were fruitful. He said: I met with President Mubarak yesterday and today, and as the Egyptian saying goes, "activity is a blessing." He added: We discussed bilateral relations and share a desire to solve all differences and to give impetus to the peace process.

We are eager to push the efforts for peace forward and to continue our steps along this path, Peres said. He added peace is important, and said: We are ready to move forward and we have agreed to work to achieve peace. I maintain peace can be established through direct negotiations, even though it is necessary to broaden those direct negotiations through an international conference. He also said serious and productive contacts must be undertaken and each party will engage in these contacts through its own channels. He then said: We will move forward with the same gravity and progress that characterize Egypt's efforts in all fields. I am looking forward to a continuing exchange of views as time passes.

In response to a question about Palestinian representation in the peace process, Peres said: We have reviewed some of the existing difficulties, as well as available opportunities, which we will discuss with the parties concerned.

Asked about the parties that may participate in the peace process, Peres said Egypt has adopted a constructive position and no agreement has been reached on this issue, adding: I wouldn't say we agreed to appoint mediators in the full sense of the word.

Asked whether the five UN Security Council permanent members would take part in an international conference, Peres said: The parties directly concerned with the problem must first agree on the participation of any parties other than themselves.

On his differences with Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir, Peres said: Domestic differences can be discussed in Israel.

Peres Departs

NC271156 Cairo MENA in English 1150 GMT 27 Feb 87

[Text] Cairo, Feb. 17 (MENA) — Israeli Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres left here today after a three-day visit to Egypt.

He was seen off at the airport by Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid and Israeli Ambassador here Moshe Sasson.

Ambassador to Israel Departs for Tel Aviv

NC011733 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1555 GMT 1 Mar 87

[Excerpts] Cairo, 1 Mar (MENA) — Muhammad Basyuni, Egyptian ambassador to Israel, left Cairo for Tel Aviv this afternoon. During his working visit to Cairo, which lasted several days, Basyuni attended the talks with Israeli Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres.

In an exclusive statement to MENA, Ambassador Basyuni affirmed there is no alternative to the international peace conference. It is the only solution now available for achieving a comprehensive peace. He warned if this opportunity is not utilized, the peace process will be frozen for a long time to come. [passage omitted]

He noted the dispute between Prime Minister Shamir and Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres is a domestic Israeli affair. He affirmed that, in principle, Egypt does not interfere in the internal affairs of other countries. [passage omitted]

Referring to the ongoing dispute between Shamir and Peres, Basyuni said Egypt deals with governments not with individuals. He noted that when President Husni Mubarak and Peres met in Alexandria a few months ago, Peres did not agree on the convocation of the conference as an individual, but in his capacity as a prime minister. [passage omitted]

Asked about the Syrian position, the ambassador said Syria should be invited to this conference, as it has territory in the Golan that is occupied, but that does not mean the conference should not be held if Syria does not attend.

Asked about the Israeli position toward the Soviet Union, he said that as a major power, the Soviet Union's participation in the international conference for peace is regarded as support for the conference. In my opinion, he said, no conditions must be imposed on a major power to attend the conference. Anyhow, these matters will be discussed in the procedures for convening the conference.

Referring to the Palestinian position, Ambassador al-Basyuni said the Palestinians are free to choose who will represent them at the conference, and no party could choose for them. He affirmed Egypt will in no way agree to any subject rejected by the legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, the PLO, under the leadership of Yasir 'Arafat.

Israel Asked To Withdraw 3 Embassy Members

NC271004 Beirut AL-SAFIR in Arabic 25 Feb 87 p 12

[Text] Cairo, from Amin Radwan — The Egyptian Government has requested the Israeli Foreign Ministry recall three members of the Israeli Embassy staff in Cairo as persona non grata.

Al-Safir has learned among the three employees is the embassy's first secretary. The three were accused of attempting to recruit a number of high-ranking officials in a national Egyptian organ. Two weeks ago, the Egyptian authorities expelled 10 Israelis from the Israeli Academic Center, for engaging in illegal activities harmful to Egypt's national security.

'Abd al-Majid Lectures on Summit Convocation

NC282213 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1945 GMT 28 Feb 87

[Text] Cairo, 28 Feb (MENA) — Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, in reiterating Egypt's support for holding an international conference for peace in the Middle East, said there must be ample preparation so it will be successful. It requires the unification of the Arab stand so there will be a unified Arab plan to achieve the desired objective.

In a lecture he delivered tonight at the International Law Society in Cairo, attended by a number of college professors, international law enthusiasts, and diplomats, Dr 'Abd al-Majid said the concept of an international conference is of both political and legal significance. It is the only practical and effective way to achieve a comprehensive settlement and to solve the Palestinian problem. He added the international conference would represent the collective international path to a solution; it would bring about negotiations among the parties under UN aegis, thus reflecting the role of the United Nations and the major powers in that respect.

Dr 'Abd al-Majid went on to say the participation of the concerned parties in this conference would mean they accept a peaceful solution and not a military option. A peaceful solution, he said, is what we are trying to achieve.

In his lecture tonight, he stressed Palestinian representation at the international peace conference is a major point because the

Palestinian people have the right to pick their own representatives to the conference. He added there is an Arab agreement, though not unanimous, to accept the notion of the international conference as a way to solve the Middle East problem. He pointed out this agreement emerged during the recent Islamic summit in Kuwait, which considered this conference an international umbrella for accepting negotiations with Israel.

Regarding Israel's stand vis-a-vis the international conference, the foreign minister said that Shim'on Peres made a commitment to it during the Alexandria summit last year when he was prime minister, and he reiterated this commitment in the Cairo communique issued yesterday. He added: But we know Yitzhaq Shamir, the present Israeli prime minister, opposes this notion. This is an internal question and we have nothing to do with it.

Regarding the U.S. stand vis-a-vis the conference, Dr 'Abd al-Majid said: Even though the United States prefers direct negotiations, we feel the U.S. stand in the past few weeks has developed into a willingness to discuss the idea of the conference. Official statements have been made on this very issue during Shamir's recent visit to Washington. He pointed out in this respect President Reagan had said during his meeting with Shamir: The U.S. aim is to give an impetus to the peace process. The means to achieve this could be discussed, and that includes the international conference.

Dr 'Abd al-Majid reviewed the Soviet Union's stand on the international conference. He said Moscow supports the conference, but Israel has objected to its participation until Soviet Jews are allowed to emigrate and Moscow resumes diplomatic relations with Israel. He added Egypt believes the Soviet Union's participation in the international conference is necessary and useful and will play an effective role in guaranteeing the comprehensive peace settlement in the Middle East.

Regarding the European stand, Dr 'Abd al-Majid praised the European statement issued recently calling for an international conference for peace as the appropriate framework for negotiations. He described this statement as a positive and constructive step deserving of appreciation.

The foreign minister underlined Egypt's determination to seek the convocation of the international conference despite all obstacles. He called on the Arab parties to unite their stands so they will have before them all the requisites for action, maneuvering, and getting the negotiations to the required settlement. He noted Egypt has played its role in war and its role in peace and now the other parties must put their hands in the hand of Egypt to achieve the desired objectives.

In his lecture, Dr 'Abd al-Majid dealt with the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement. He said this agreement has laid down for the first time, the firm basis for a joint concept of movement within the framework of political action. It has also included the principal bases for a peaceful settlement to the Palestinian problem.

He expressed his hope the Palestinians would unite their stands. He said Egypt deals with the PLO in the latter's capacity as the sole legitimate representative [of the Palestinian people] and that Yasir 'Arafat embodies the Palestinian defense movement. But, he added, there are some Arab countries that do not share this view with us. He stressed Egypt is struggling for the Palestinian people's right to self-determination. He added: We call on the Palestinians to settle their differences, but we accept what the Palestinian side accepts.

Replying to a question about Security Council Resolution 242, the foreign minister said: Even though this resolution is deficient and must be completed by adding a passage on the Palestinian people's right to self-determination, it is still a basis for any settlement because it has ruled the usurpation of territories by force is impermissible. He noted the PLO is correct in rejecting this resolution and in considering it as insufficient.

Chad Foreign Minister Ends Visit, Departs 27 Feb

NC271127 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1105 GMT 27 Feb 87

[Text] Cairo, 27 Feb (MENA) — Chadian Foreign Minister Lassou Gouara left Cairo this morning to return to his country after an official 4-day visit to Egypt, during which he met with President Husni Mubarak.

In a predeparture statement, the Chadian foreign minister said he had handed President Mubarak a reply from Chadian President Hissein Habre to Mubarak's message. The Chadian president's message to Mubarak dealt with the current situation in Chad and its developments. Gouara added he and Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, had discussed Egypt's firm stand on the Chadian issue, important African and international issues, matters of common interest to the two countries, and bilateral relations.

'Abd al-Majid Confers With Moroccan Diplomat

NC011549 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1420 GMT 1 Mar 87

[Text] Cairo, 1 Mar (MENA) — Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, today received Ambassador Mohamed al-Tazi, who was recently appointed chief of the Moroccan Interests Section in Cairo. The fraternal Moroccan-Egyptian relations, which are progressing positively at present, were discussed. The two officials also reviewed the current Arab developments and the efforts to back the Palestinian issue and achieve a just and comprehensive settlement in the Middle East. Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid praised the firm ties that link the Egyptian and Moroccan peoples. He also expressed Egypt's appreciation for the role of Morocco and King Hassan in the Arab and Islamic arenas.

AL-AKHBAR Questions Syrian Beirut 'Intervention'

JN270828 Cairo AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 25 Feb 87 p 5

[Editorial: "The Syrian Intervention in Beirut; in Whose Favor?"]

[Text] Will security and stability return to West Beirut following the Syrian military intervention? Was it necessary to dispatch 7,000 Syrian soldiers supported by 100 tanks and 200 armored cars to end a clash between the pro-Syrian Shi'ite militias, the pro-Syrian Druze militias, and the Communist militias that are Syria's allies? Was the Syrian military force in eastern Lebanon able to stop the raging civil war?

These are some of the questions bound to come to mind when talking about the entry of this huge Syrian military force into Beirut merely because it was requested by five pro-Syrian Lebanese leaders. The answer to the first question can be found in the incident that occurred on 23 February, the first day of the entry of the Syrian forces, when a clash erupted between Druze gunmen and the Syrian forces in Druze-controlled 'Ayn Mraysah in West Beirut. Immediately, the Syrian forces began searching houses and arresting Druze for interrogation. We do not believe this incident will be the last. The answer to the same question can also be found in the wave of indignation that swept eastern Beirut as a result of the Syrian intervention.

For the sake of argument, let us suppose the Syrian intervention was desirable. Was it necessary to send a force of 7,000 soldiers, 100 tanks, and 200 armored cars to break up a fight among Syria's allies? The answer is certainly no. Therefore, the objective is not to impose security, but to impose and strengthen Syrian influence in Lebanon — above all to serve Syria's interests and to support the militias allied with Syria, the most important of which is Amal, particularly following the defeat Amal sustained in the recent battles. Thus, the objective is to support Amal. What about the Palestinian refugee camps? Could the Syrian intervention be to protect them? How can that be when Amal is the principal enemy dealing constant blows against the Palestinians in the camps and besieging them?

Some pro-Syrian Lebanese officials say the Syrian intervention is intended to strengthen the attempts to bring about national reconciliation. Then, where were the 30,000 Syrian soldiers — the Arab deterrent force stationed in Al-Biqa' in eastern Lebanon — throughout the past 12 years of the civil war? Where were they when battles were raging on all Lebanese fronts? Where were they during the Israeli invasion of Lebanon in 1982?

We sincerely hope security and order will return to Lebanon. However, we are certain complete peace will only be restored in Lebanon when Lebanon's legitimate authorities regain all powers and constitutional responsibilities are restored to those who are entitled to exercise them.

Delegation To Resume Trade Talks With USSR

NC020755 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0720 GMT 2 Mar 87

[Text] Cairo, 2 Mar (MENA) — (Studies and Research Center) — Dr Yusri Mustafa, minister of economy and foreign trade, will leave for Moscow tomorrow at the head of an economic delegation on a visit to the Soviet Union to participate in a new round of bilateral economic talks, which began in December.

The talks between the Egyptian and Soviet delegations will involve a number of financial questions, the conclusion of a 5-year bilateral trade agreement, and the amendment of the trade exchange protocol signed in December and valued at $600 million.

Egypt is one of the Soviet Union's major trade partners, occupying the sixth position among Third World countries and the second position among African countries in commercial dealings with the Soviets. Bilateral trade increased by 20 percent from April to December 1985, reaching a value of 615 million pounds sterling. The most important Soviet exports to Egypt in that period were industrial and agricultural equipment, cars, spare parts, and construction equipment.

In mid-1984, Egypt and the Soviet Union signed a protocol for trade cooperation, by which Egypt exported cotton, cotton products, fruits and vegetables, salts, leather products, and wooden furniture at a value of 302 million pounds sterling. In return, Egypt imported a million tons of coal, 1.2 million tons of cement, 50,000 tons oF fertilizer, 13,000 tons of newsprint paper, 38,000 tons of carton paper, and 30,000 tons of frozen fish, glass, cast iron, and chemicals, at a value of 312 million pounds sterling.

Economic Weekly Reports No Agreement With IMF

NC020850 Paris AFP in English 0845 GMT 2 Feb 87

[Text] Cairo, March 2 (AFP) — Egypt and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) have not yet agreed on a letter of intent by Cairo on measures to be taken to obtain a stand-by credit of 300 million dollars from the fund, the economic weekly *Al-Ahram Al-Iqtisadi* reported on Monday here.

The magazine is owned by the semi-official *Al-Ahram* press group.

Quoting what it described as "a responsible and very highly placed source", the paper said there were "many points of difference between the two parties".

The magazine said one of these was rejection by Egypt of a request by the IMF that Egypt should increase the price of energy and derived products by 60 percent, and should increase interest rates as deemed necessary by the fund.

Ministry Source on Sawhaj, Bani Suwayf Fires

NC011640 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1535 GMT 1 Mar 87

[Text] Cairo, 1 Mar (MENA) — Commenting on the events that took place in the Governorates of Bani Suwayf and Sawhaj, a responsible source in the Interior Ministry has said concerning incidents in Bani Suwayf, a group of students from the Commerce College in Cairo University — Bani Suwayf branch — who are members of extremist religious groups, have attacked their colleagues on the university campus to protest the fraternization between female and male students, because this runs counter to the instructions of these groups. The instructions stipulate female students should be veiled when they go to the university and the university halls should be partitioned with drapes.

The source went on to say the extremist students attacked their colleagues with clubs and chains and then set the collage dean's car on fire. They then gathered inside the university campus. The source added the dean sought the help of security personnel, who arrested 51 students. The prosecution ordered these students be detained for 15 days pending the outcome of investigations.

As for the events in Sawhaj, the Interior Ministry source noted that at 1500 on Friday [27 February], the Sawhaj Security Directorate was informed a fire broke out in the Al-Qutub Mosque in Sawhaj. Fire fighters rushed immediately to the scene and extinguished the fire. It later transpired it was generated by faulty electric contacts in the power box near the mosque.

The source added that at this particular time, a group of extremists residing in the vicinity of the mosque incited children to come with them and headed toward the Virgin Mary Church, which is adjacent to the mosque, to set it ablaze after they spread rumors it was the Copts who had set the mosque on fire.

The source added the children sparked off the fire inside the church, but the fire fighters managed to extinguish it. Seven of them, whose ages range between 16 and 17 years, have been arrested. The governor of Sawhaj decided to repair the mosque and the church at the expense of the governorate.

Mubarak Speech Delivered at Population Meeting

NC011341 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 1 Mar 87

[Text] President Muhammad Husni Mubarak addressed the international Islamic conference on population in the Islamic world today. Dr Kamal al-Janzuri, deputy prime minister and minister of planning, delivered the speech on behalf of the president. In his address, the president declared Egypt is pursuing its basic mission in the serve of the Islamic world to preserve Islam. The president also affirmed economic development in Islamic countries cannot be achieved without developing human resources, and the problems of the Islamic world can be solved only by the sons of the Islamic countries. Noting the role of Al-Azhar University in organizing this conference, the president said this role is an integral part of Al-Azhar's mission in serving all Muslims of the world. His Eminence Grand Shaykh Jad al-Haq 'Ali Jad al-Haq, rector of Al-Azhar, also addressed the conference, stressing the importance of returning to Islam's teachings so the Islamic nation can regain its prestige. Dr Muhammad al-Sa'di Farhud, president of Al-Azhar, also delivered a speech, calling for reclamation of deserts and revival of barren lands.

Additional Communiques, Reports on Fighting

Communique No 2,586

JN271735 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic
1700 GMT 27 Feb 87

[Communique No 2,586 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 27 February 1987]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. The Iraqi Armed Forces continue to express the great Iraqi people's will to destroy the remnants of the aggressors, to defend Iraq's territory and its citizens's dignity, and to confront the ambitious aggressors, the agents of Zionism, Iran's anti-Arab fascist rulers. The following is a summary of activities for last night and today:

1. Our valiant forces in the Muhammad al-Qasim and Al-Miqdad Forces sector in the III Army Corps front destroyed several enemy groups attempting to approach our forward positions last night. With marvelous support from the heroic artillery and armor, our heroic men in these forces repulsed these groups and annihilated most of their scoundrels. The rest of the groups fled. Our heroic Air Force and the daring helicopter knights provided the best support for our ground units while they were repulsing the aggressors. Blessed be the brave, loyal men of the Muhammad al-Qasim and Al-Miqdad Forces — commanders, officers, and other ranks. March ahead to new victories.

2. Through 42 combat missions the planes of our gigantic Air Force carried out daring raids on the scoundrel Khomeyniites on the fronts and dealt their personnel, weapons, and equipment violent and destructive blows. In implementation of our great people's will to destroy the tyrant Khomeyniites' supplies and oil resources, which they use to carry out aggressions against our dear country, our gigantic Air Force dealt an accurate and effective blow to a large maritime target near the Iranian coast at 1215 [0915 GMT]. After carrying out all their combat missions, they returned safely and triumphantly to base in God's care and protection.

3. In 97 combat missions the helicopter knights carried out daring raids on the heads of the scoundrel Khomeyniites, inflicting bitter death upon their personnel and destruction upon their vehicles, weapons, and equipment. After accurately carrying out their missions, the brave knights returned with their planes safely and triumphantly to base in God's care.

4. Our valiant units in the VII Army Corps sector continued to direct intensified artillery, tank, and other weapon fire at enemy assembly areas and inflicted important losses, burning and damaging seven vehicles, destroying six ammunition dumps and four infantry positions and killing their personnel, and destroying an observation post and a gun emplacement and killing their personnel.

5. The criminal enemy shelled residential areas in the city of Basra with long-range artillery, damaging several houses and civilian property.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 27 February 1987

Iranian Tanker Hit 27 Feb

JN281646 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic
1600 GMT 28 Feb 87

[Text] Shipping sources in Bahrain today said that Iraqi fighter planes hit the Iranian oil tanker *Khark*, which weights 116,406 tons, near the Iranian coast in the Arab Gulf yesterday. These sources said the engine room caught fire after the tanker was hit. An Iraqi military spokesman had earlier stated that our Air Force yesterday launched two air raids on two large maritime targets, scoring accurate and effective hits.

Communique: 2 F-4's Downed

JN281756 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic
1700 GMT 28 Feb 87

[Communique No 2,587 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 28 Feb 87]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our victorious forces are continuing their glorious defense of Iraq's land and freedom, stressing the Iraqi people's unlimited power and capability to repulse dangers to their country and move ahead on the path of progress, liberation, and construction. The following are the overall operations for last night and today:

1. Using artillery, tank, and mortar fire, as well as other weapons, our forces inflicted further losses on the remnants of the enemy in the III Army Corps front. Our forces killed and wounded large numbers of the scoundrels, damaged and destroyed a great quantity of the enemy's equipment, weapons, and vehicles, and imposed their complete domination in this sector.

2. Our gigantic Air Force carried out 26 combat missions, inflicting losses in personnel, equipment, and weapons on the scoundrel Khomeyniites. Our planes returned safely to base, God be praised.

3. Our helicopters carried out 25 combat missions today, and the brave knights of the helicopters wiped out many enemy soldiers and destroyed weapons, vehicles, and equipment. Our brave knights returned safely with their planes to base, God be praised.

4. The heroes of the VII Army Corps today extended good support to our brave forces in the heroic III Army Corps operations sector, killing 10 enemy personnel, destroying 1 shovel [preceding word in English], 2 ammunition dumps, and 3 observation posts, and destroying 2 machine gun emplacements and killing their occupants.

5. At 0825 [0525 GMT] yesterday, an enemy F-4 aircraft tried to violate our international borders in the III Army Corps operations sector, but the brave men of our air defenses confronted it and downed it. It was seen crashing in flames over enemy territory. At 1000 yesterday, another enemy F-4 aircraft also tried to violate our international borders in the same sector, but our air defenses confronted it and succeeded in shooting it down. It was seen crashing in flames opposite our units over enemy territory. May God bless you O our brave men in the heroic III Army Corps operations sector.

6. Seven observation posts were destroyed, one enemy soldiers was killed, one machine gun emplacement was destroyed, and three infantry positions were destroyed, with their occupants killed, in the II Army Corps operations sector.

7. Charlatan Khomeyni's regime shelled residential areas in the suburbs of the city of Basra, causing damage to a number of houses and properties.

[Signed] the Armed Forces General Command, 28 Feb 1987

3 Guards Divisions 'Annihilated'

JN011146 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic
1020 GMT 1 Mar 87

[Communique No 2,588 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 1 March 1987]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. O great Iraqi people, O dawn of the Arab nation and object of its bright hopes. For 2 months now and since the Great Day battle and the beginning of the Great Harvest battles, your heroic Armed Forces have been waging in the air, at sea, and on the land unparalled heroic fighting. It is a unique type of fighting throughout the past 7 years of glory and victory. The meaning of this fighting is clear to you and to all Arabs who uphold the nation's glory and sublime principles. Its meaning is also clear to the whole world. Still, your valiant sons and grandsons continue to fight aggression, evil, and sin thereby creating more glory.

Men of the heroic III Army Corps of the Armed Forces have courageously fought the charlatan's scoundrels and those who were shepherded in the direction of our forces. We swear to God Almighty that we have never witnessed and read about such fighting.

Your sons and beloved fought the forces of treachery and aggression continuously, day and night. The men and units took turns, particularly the ground forces, with all of them carrying out their national role and leaving their stamp on the land of our altar, the land of beloved and pure Basra which has been irrigated by the blood of heroes, so that your Basra, O Iraqis and O honorable Arabs, will remain proud and impregnable and will relate with pride the story of glory to present and future generations, so that they will know some of what they must know and appreciate heroism in its proper historic context, as it rightly deserves.

Fighting along a front only 500 meters deep between the Iraqi and Iranian forces continued for a full month, day and night, after the end of the Great Harvest battles. The Khomeyniites were daily experiencing the bitter taste of defeat, leaving behind thousands of their accursed dead on the land of heroism and glory.

The source of the aggression, its aides, and those who gave it advice imagined that continuing the fight even after they lost the Great Day battles and the Great Harvest battles may achieve the aim of their treacherous aggression against the city of cities. However God and His soldiers were near and were in the conscience of the steadfast believers, the heroes of Iraq and the Arab nation.

Last night and this morning the treacherous enemy threw in those whom he assembled to commit evil, three divisions of Revolutionary Guards, into a fierce and treacherous battle against our Armed Forces in their advanced defense lines. The charlatans imagined that the Iraqis would not be alert, as they had masked their crime with a mean, cowardly, and treacherous deception by declaring that they had stopped their military operations on 27 February 1987. However, your beloved and glorious sons were alert and their consciousness and determination vigilant. They repulsed the forces of treachery and annihalated the aggressor forces. Our defensive positions are clean and undesecrated by the treacherous foreigner.

God is great. Praise be to God for His victory. Glory to the bearers of the mission and principles, the zealous Iraqis and their sons in the battlefield. Disgrace to the defeated!

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 1 March 1987.

Communique No 2,589

JN011736 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic
1700 GMT 1 Mar 87

[Communique No 2,589 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 1 March 1987]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Iraq is continuing to go from one victory to another under the banner of its great leader, protecting its territory, security, and sovereignty, assisted by its noble people and valiant Armed Forces. The following is a summary of the activities for last night and today:

1. The faithful men of the VII Army Corps provided, as usual, strong support for our brave units in the heroic III Army Corps sector and inflicted important losses on the aggressors in life, arms, and equipment, as well as the following: the destruction of six vehicles and the killing or wounding of all their scroundel occupants; the destruction of seven weapons and infantry positions and the killing of all their occupants; the destruction of one shovel [preceding word in English] and the damaging of two vehicles; the killing of five enemy soldiers; and the destruction of nine ammunition dumps.

2. At 0918 [0618 GMT] yesterday, an enemy F-4 plane attempted to violate our international border in the III Army Corps sector. Our heroic men of the ground defenses confronted and managed to down it. It was seen crashing in flames in enemy territory. At 1040, 1100, and 1120 yesterday morning, our valiant men of the ground defenses downed three enemy helicopters. The three helicopters were witnessed by our forward units crashing in flames in enemy territory.

God bless our brave men of the ground defenses. Advance for further destructive blows against the enemy war machine; repulse and defeat the aggressors. Victory comes from Almighty God; He is the best supporter.

3. Our righteous soldiers in the II Army Corps sector captured a quantity of serviceable weapons left by the enemy as it fled from recent corps' battles: six GC rifles, four Kalashnikov rifles, two medium-caliber machine guns, two light launchers, and two radios, and a quantity of material. The corps soldiers in the same sector also managed to hit an enemy tank, to destroy one medium-caliber machine gun, and to kill an enemy soldier.

4. Ten enemy soldiers were either killed or wounded in the I Army Corps northern sector.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 1 March 1987

Saddam Husayn Visits III Army Corps Sector

JN011458 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1446 GMT 1 Mar 87

[Text] Baghdad, 1 Mar (INA) — President Saddam Husayn visited the III Army Corps sector east of Al-Basrah twice last week for reassurance of the defensive arrangements and to meet with field commanders. His excellency gave instructions to reinforce the superior fighting capabilities of the Iraqi fighters and to consolidate these capabilities in defending Iraq. His excellency also followed the progress of military operations and praised the heroism of the proud sons of the homeland. President Saddam Husayn's meetings with the field commanders were attended by Staff General 'Adnan Khayrallah, deputy commander in chief of the Armed Forces and defense minister.

Military Official on Iranian Casualties

JN271611 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1530 GMT 27 Feb 87

[Text] Basra, 27 Feb (INA) — 'Abd al-Jabbar Muhsin, director of the Political Guidance Department of the Defense Ministry, has said the Iranians have lost the large majority of their forces during their aggression against Basra without achieving any of their objectives.

In a statement to the INA team in the III Army Corps sector, Muhsin said the Iranians themselves said this large-scale offensive, for which they prepared all their manpower for a year, was aimed at occupying Basra. He added the Iranians sent 250,000 troops into a narrow strip and sustained no less than 200,000 killed or wounded in the past 50 days, including losses in battles preceding this offensive.

He pointed out that the results of the battles since the night of the 9th of last month are considered a great victory for Iraq. He said the foothold the Iranian forces have gained after all these losses does not exceed 2 or 3 km deep in some areas on a 7-km-long front. He stressed the Iranians in this area have been bleeding for 50 days without achieving their major objective. He said even the small foothold they gained near the eastern border will be taken from them at the right time. He added that during this battle tens of Iranian missile batteries, hundreds of guns, tens of tanks, and thousands of vehicles were destroyed.

Muhsin said the current situation clearly shows Iraq still maintains a strong military force and that it imposes full control over the situation. He said that the Iranians suffer more defeats daily and that Iraq will continue to safeguard its sovereignty.

Concluding his statement, Muhsin said: Sooner or later the Iranian regime will admit its defeat because cheap ambitions and false words will not change the facts.

Sha'ban on Air Force Superiority, Plans

JN010942 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0716 GMT 1 Mar 87

[Text] Baghdad, 1 Mar (INA) — Lieutenant General Hamid Sha'ban, commander of the Iraqi Air Force and Air Defenses, has said that the strikes by Iraqi warplanes on Iranian cities during the past period merely serve as a reminder to Iran's rulers of Iraq's wide and unlimited ability to destroy any target it chooses wherever it may be.

In an expanded statement to the newspaper *Al-Qadisiyah*, organ of the Iraqi Ministry of Defense, today, Lt Gen Sha'ban added that the time for Iraq's devastating, decisive response has not come yet, saying: We have comprehensive plans and strong readiness to implement the Higher Command's orders at the appropriate time to make Iran's rulers understand that they will regret very much their recklessness and arrogance toward Iraq and that they will pay dearly if they do not stop their aggression against Iraq.

Lt Gen Sha'ban said that Iraq has authenticated information that Zionist experts and experts from the imperialist states have worked for a long time to repair Iranian fighter planes FC-4, FC-5, and FC-14 [as received], and to supply the Iranians with advanced aircraft and arms.

The Iraqi military commander affirmed that despite the arms sales to Iran by Zionism and imperialism, the Iranian Air Force's efficiency is very weak and unable even to appear in the Iranian airspace.

He explained that the Iraqi Air Force has all the elements of strength in its possession. He said it managed to promote its combat methods and the whole world has witnessed the efficiency and capability of the Iraqi Air Force. The Iranian regime has become aware of the real disaster the Iraqi Air Force can inflict on its forces and the pillars of its aggression.

He stressed that the coming days will witness painful and destructive blows to sever all channels of Iranian aggression wherever they may be. He said: It is no secret that severe and surprise blows are in store for the Iranian enemy to strike at his dens far and near, and, when the time comes, to comprehensively, relentlessly, and mercilessly destroy his vital and economic installations.

Iran Commits 'New Violation' of Iraqi Initiative

JN011719 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1550 GMT 1 Mar 87

[Text] Baghdad, 1 Mar (INA) — Culture and Information Minister Latif Nussayif Jasim has said the new Iranian aggression against the III Army Corps sector last night is a new violation to be added to several violations by the Iranian regime of Iraq's initiative to stop bombing Iranian cities.

In a statement to INA, the minister added that this violation absolves Iraq of its commitment not to bomb Iranian cities for a period of 2 weeks beginning 19 February in accord with the conditions mentioned in the political leadership's statement on 18 February. Latif Nussayif Jasim said the world public and the Iranian people clearly know now that the Iranian regime is fully responsible for its continuous aggression against Iraq and for the consequences of attacking Iraq and its cities. He added that the Iranian rulers know that our reply will be devastating and corpulent.

The culture and information minister recalled the decision adopted by a joint meeting of the RCC and the Ba'th Party Regional Command on 18 February called by President Saddam Husayn. He pointed out that the decision stated that Iraq would stop bombing Iranian cities as of Thursday, 19 February 1987, for a period of 2 weeks in response to a request by Mas'ud Rajavi, leader of the Iranian Mojahedin-e Khalq organization and chairman of the national council of the Iranian resistance.

The minister explained that the political leadership's decision stressed that Iraq would be absolved of its commitments and that it would resume very strong bombing and on a larger scale than before if the Iranian regime's forces bomb Iraqi cities and residential areas, and if the Iranian regime embarks on any new aggression against our territories and international borders.

Latif Nussayyif Jasim warned that this temporary suspension of the bombing of cities hinges upon the Iranian regime's stand on the issue of peace. He said this regime should clearly and unequivocally express a new stand consistent with international law and the five principles announced by President Saddam Husayn on 2 August 1986 by establishing a comprehensive and lasting peace between the two countries.

It is known that the Iranian side did not abide by any of the Iraqi political leadership's conditions for stopping the bombing of cities. Iranian long-range artillery has resumed the shelling of Basra, Al-Sulaymaniyah, and Al- Zubayr during the past days. Moreover, an Iranian force carried out an aggression against the III Army Corps sector last week, and another force attempted to attack the Al-'Amiq port in the Arab Gulf.

Mojahedin-e Khalq Fighters Destroy Iranian Base

JN021049 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0930 GMT 2 Mar 87

[Text] Paris, 2 Mar (INA) — The Iranian opposition Mojahedin-e Khalq Organization fighters destroyed a main military base of the Iranian regime's Guard in Iran's Kordestan area last Thursday. In a statement to an INA correspondent, the Mojedin-e Khalq Organization office spokesman said that the organization's fighters, who were armed with rocket launchers and automatic weapons, killed 20 Guard personnel during the attack and destroyed the headquarters and all the facilities of the (Sorh Kuhe) base to the south of the city of Bani in Iran's Kordestan.

The spokesman added that during the operation the Mojahedin-e Khalq artillery units shelled the rear bases of the Iranian regime's forces, preventing these forces from helping the main base. The spokesman affirmed that all the organization's fighters who carried out the operation returned safely to their bases.

Ramadan, Delegation Return From Saudi Arabia

JN271101 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1007 GMT 27 Feb 87

[Text] Baghdad, 27 Feb (INA) — Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister, and his delegation returned to Baghdad today following a 2-day visit to Saudi Arabia.

In a statement to INA, Taha Yasin Ramadan said he conveyed a message from President Saddam Husayn to his brother His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz dealing with bilateral cooperation and the Arab situation. He added that his talks in Saudi Arabia dealt with the Iraq-Iran war; the dangers posed by the Iranian regime's escalating, repeated, large-scale attacks on Iraqi territory; and the Iraqi Armed Forces' preparations to destroy all the attempts to encroach on Iraq's sovereignty and territory, while Iraq continues to exert sincere efforts to establish of peace.

The first deputy prime minister indicated that the Saudi brothers, headed by His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, greatly appreciated Iraq's peace efforts and President Saddam Husayn's frequent initiatives. They also emphasized their support for Iraq, which is defending its sovereignty and territory, and expressed their pride in the extensive and developed bilateral relations.

Regarding bilateral relations, Taha Yasin Ramadan pointed out the positive results of the developing and expanding cooperation in all areas, and he said that the two sides agreed to exert efforts to bolster the march of pan-Arab, strategic cooperation. He termed the outcome of the visit as both important and distinguished and said it will contribute to promoting bilateral cooperation to an advanced and ideal level.

Ramadan's delegation consisted of Oil Minister Qasim Ahmad Taqi al-'Uraybi and several other officials. Ramadan and his delegation arrived in Medina from Riyadh last night. Prince 'Abd al-Majid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the amir of the Medina District, and other officials received Ramadan at Medina airport. While there, Ramadan and his delegation visited the holy mosque and the tomb of Prophet Muhammad, God bless him and grant him salvation.

Tariq 'Aziz Leaves on Visit to Rome 1 March

JN012050 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1735 GMT 1 Mar 87

[Text] Baghdad, 1 Mar (INA) — Tariq 'Aziz, Iraqi deputy prime minister and foreign minister, left Baghdad for Rome this evening on an official visit to Rome that will last several days. Tariq 'Aziz is expected to convey a verbal message from President Saddam Husayn to Pope Paul II. He will also hold talks with Italian officials dealing with Iraqi-Italian relations and developments in the continuing Iranian aggression against Iraq.

Reportage on Visit

For reportage on the visit by Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz to Rome, including his meetings with Italian Foreign Minister Giulio Andreotti and Foreign Trade Minister Rino Formica, see the Italy section of the 2 March Western Europe *Daily Report* and subsequent issues.

Husayn Chairs Joint RCC, Ba'th Party Meeting

JN281157 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1150 GMT 28 Feb 87

[Text] Baghdad, 28 Feb (INA) — President Saddam Husayn has chaired a joint meeting of the RCC and the Ba'th Party Regional Command. The discussion during the meeting dealt with the Iranian aggression against Iraqi territory, Iraq's readiness to confront any new Iranian aggression, Arab developments, and the results of the recent visit to Saudi Arabia by Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister.

Minister Defines Stand on Middle East Peace

JN281314 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1210 GMT 28 Feb 87

[Interview with Jordanian Information Minister Muhammad al-Khatib by correspondent Fu'ad Na'im in Amman — date not given]

[Text] [Na'im] Your excellency, what is Jordan's opinion of the results of the Cairo summit between President Husni Mubarak and Shim'on Peres?

[Al-Khatib] Jordan's stand on the Arab-Israeli conflict is clear to all the countries in the world. Jordan has communicated this stand through intensive contacts with world leaders over the past years. The details of the Jordanian stand were also communicated to the leaders of West European countries and other world leaders. The fraternal Arab countries are also aware of this stand. Our stand is clear and explicit. It is the following:

The objective is to seek a just, lasting, and comprehensive peace in the Middle East region. All parties must exert efforts to attain this objective. Therefore, this is the objective. As for the method, since resolutions on this problem have been adopted by the UN Security Council or the UN General Assembly, particularly Resolutions 242 and 338 issued by the UN Security Council, the solution should be through the international body that has issued these resolutions. The international community, the international organization, and therefore the international conference is the framework for all these efforts sincerely aimed at attaining a just, comprehensive, and lasting peace in the Middle East. Any detailed talk about who will attend, the date of the conference, and what role the conference will play can be considered preconditions, which cannot serve the basic objective of a just, comprehensive, and lasting peace and will add obstacles to the previous obstacles.

I believe any party to the conflict, including the five permanent UN Security Council members, if they really are concerned about attaining a just, lasting, and comprehensive peace, should show good intentions, leave details aside, and not raise such details, which I have said are very close to being preconditions. They must concentrate their sincere efforts on attaining the basic objective: a just, comprehensive, and lasting peace in the Middle East.

This is the stand as we see it in Jordan. We cannot explain any other stand outside this general concept we believe, which we consider to be a just stand.

Further on Visit by Canadian Parliamentarians

Senator Supports Conference

JN280827 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 28 Feb 87

[Text] Canadian Senator Dr (Lon O'Neil), who is leading a parliamentary delegation currently visiting Jordan, has praised Jordan's policies under His Majesty King Husayn. At a news conference he held in Amman yesterday, he emphasized an international Mideast peace conference should be held with the attendance of all the parties concerned and noted Jordan's efforts to establish just and honorable peace in the region. Canada, (O'Neil) pointed out, is working on behalf of this goal in the best interests of all parties.

From the Canadian delegation's visit to the occupied Arab land, he gained the impression the Israeli prime minister and his foreign minister have different perspectives on an international peace conference. The delegation saw for itself the repressive measures taken by Israeli authorities against the Arab population in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, the Canadian senator added.

He said the Canadian Government was happy to extend an invitation to His Highness Crown Prince Hasan to visit Canada and commended his action in the cause of national development and Jordan's international relations.

Dr (O'Neil) said he had useful talks with Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i and the Senate and House of Representatives speakers especially on bilateral trade exchanges. These ties should be reinforced when airline service between Jordan and Canada becomes operational very soon, he said.

Delegation Departs

JN281858 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 28 Feb 87

[Excerpt] The Canadian parliamentary delegation left Amman today following a visit of several days at the invitation of House Speaker 'Akif al-Fayiz. During the visit, the delegation met with His Highness Crown Prince Hasan, the regent, and Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i. [passage omitted]

Fadlallah: Hostages Used As 'Trump Card' by U.S.

PM271635 London AL-MAJALLAH in Arabic 25 Feb-3 Mar 87 pp 16, 17

[Interview with Shaykh Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah, spiritual leader of Hizballah, by Ruba Kubbarah in Beirut; date not given]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] [Kubbarah] Let us discuss the hostage problem. There are those who believe the recent kidnapping of four U.S. professors (for which the Organization of Islamic Jihad for the Liberation of Palestine has claimed responsibility) is linked to the conflict between Iran and Syria in the Lebanese arena following the revelation of the U.S. arms supplies to Iran.

[Fadlallah] I do not think the issue is of that magnitude or lies within these boundaries. Probably those who are stirring it up imagine that complications between Syria and Iran have reached a conflict on that level. From my understanding of the nature of the political situation in the region, I find no indication whatsoever to prove this. In fact I believe that the issue is bound up with an international and regional intelligence conflict over more than one political problem. One side wants to stir things up in order to solve some of its problems, and another side wants to do so in order to serve its strategy. The hostages are the trump card held by the United States to serve more than one aim in its declared policy regarding the war against what it calls terrorism in the region. This policy is actually aimed at those opposed to U.S. policy in the region. It is a card that the United States can play in order to show the European states and the Third World that it is the wronged party and that it has the right to confront the wrongdoers and defend its citizens. I believe that the United States could have managed to solve the hostage problem, just as it has solved the spy problem with the Soviet Union or any other states. The United States could have managed to work toward a solution, but it did not want to do that; indeed, it worked to exploit the issue to serve its plans and probably tried indirectly to create climates conducive to more kidnappings to use this to serve its interests.

[Kubbarah] But the United States, so it was revealed, adopted the negotiating line which resulted in the release of three U.S. hostages in the past.

[Fadlallah] The United States regarded the hostages as a card to play in serving its international interests so that it could appear as if its objective was the release of hostages while in fact it was playing for something else. So the hostages are in fact a facade for U.S. policy's maneuvers, not its objective.

[Kubbarah] With regard to the disappearance of the Anglican envoy Terry Waite, how do you see this?

[Fadlallah] I think Terry Waite came to an arena full of political complications involving more than one European state and the United States. We have to look at this question in the light of U.S. and British political complexes in the the region. I will add nothing to this.

[Kubbarah] The lawyer of George Ibrahim 'Abdallah (the Lebanese accused of the Paris explosions) stated that he was considering asking some Lebanese spiritual and secular figures, among them Shaykh Fadlallah, to testify. What is your opinion?

[Fadlallah] I have no information about this subject. I understand from what was published that he has called for my testimony and that of Bishop George Khadir and others to testify to Israeli oppression in Lebanon. The testimony does not relate to his case as such but it does relate to the atmosphere in which and the motives on which he [George 'Abdallah] acted in this case. So far no one has contacted me with regard to this question.

[Kubbarah] After all that has been said about the issue of the U.S. arms supplies to Iran, and with regard to the relationship between Iran and Syria, how do you see the effect of this on the Lebanese arena and also on the conflicts among the Iranian forces themselves?

[Fadlallah] I do not think there are any complications between Iran and Syria that would raise this question. There are political differences between the two countries, but I do not think that they have reached the point of complication. Differences might create a state of disagreement and might reach the point of interference or severance, but they do not develop into a conflict. As for the story of the existence of a conflict among the various forces — moderate and extremist forces or "revolutionary" and state forces in Iran — I do not think that it exists to the degree being reported by the media. Perhaps there are some forces in Iran adopting unrealistic ideas with regard to Iranian policy on international relations, but they do not represent a large sector in the Iranian arena. One of Iran's characteristics is that the forces that are influential because of their spiritual position or leadership position are in the hands of Khomeyni, who is both the "revolution" and the state. Therefore I believe that there is no force that can deviate from his line and that there is no force capable of opposing him.

[Kubbarah] You said earlier that the United States has been using the hostages card to justify its actions. With the presence of the U.S. naval units in the Mediterranean, what do you expect?

[Fadlallah] I think the presence of fleets and battleships is part of a U.S. political maneuver launched to assure those who need assurance, to intimidate those who need to be intimidated, and to move those who need to be moved. It is a message directed to more than one quarter in the region. It is addressed to Lebanon but in fact Lebanon is not the intended recipient. Despite the presence in Lebanon of Islamic fundamentalist forces, which the United States regards as "terrorist forces" in the region, these have not yet reached a level to influence U.S. policy as a whole. As for the Lebanese problem itself, though it is of interest to U.S. policy, it has not been given due priority, although Lebanon still contains scope which the major powers could exploit to serve several aims. Therefore the problem is not Lebanese security or even the security of foreigners in Lebanon; nor is it the problem of finding a solution to the Lebanese issue. The Lebanese sedition was created to serve more than one regional and international political plan in the region. I think it is difficult for the United States to have an opportunity to intervene militarily in Lebanon in a manner that will preserve its prestige or achieve considerable results in line with the slogans it advances. The United States may be able to occupy Lebanon in cooperation with Israel or on its own; the United States may be able to destroy Lebanon. But we know that the occupation of Lebanon is not considered to be a political possibility for the United States because this might complicate or embarrass U.S. relations with its Arab friends or allies. The potential for open U.S. military intervention is difficult. There is a difference between shelling a state and shelling people. Shelling a state might force it to make concessions, but shelling people will make them more violent and leads them to adopt a hard line and even more defiant attitudes. Therefore the United States might give many of its agents and intelligence men in Lebanon the opportunity to carry out more than one operation to cause confusion. Perhaps the car bombs are one example. The big problem of the big powers is that they do not have the freedom of movement that small countries or forces in a certain country have.

[Kubbarah] With regard to the request by the Organization of Islamic Jihad for the Liberation of Palestine for the release of 400 Lebanese and Palestinian detainees from Israeli prisons in return for the release of the four U.S. professors and then Nabih Birri's stand and his offer to exchange the Israeli pilot detained by the Amal Movement for the detainees in Israel, how do you view these offers and their coincidence?

[Fadlallah] I have no real information about the nature of this new organization (Islamic Jihad for the Liberation of Palestine) to enable me to comment on this issue. [passage omitted]

[Kubbarah] A meeting was held between President Hafiz al-Asad and President Amin al-Jumayyil. What might this meeting solve in relation to the Lebanese crisis?

[Fadlallah] This can play a considerable role in solving some of the problems arising from the nature of the complications between Lebanon and Syria. But this will certainly not solve all the problems.

Lebanese Mediator Says Cordes Held by Hizballah

NC011613 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1523 GMT 1 Mar 87

[Text] The Lebanese mediator Rashid Mahrum, who is playing a role in the negotiations for the two German hostages in Lebanon, has affirmed that hostage Rudolf Cordes was captured by Hizballah. Mahrum said that 3 days after the arrest of Muhammad Ali Hamadah on 16 January, he met a man called Tahsin in southern Lebanon, who asked him to mediate with the FRG Government for the release of Hamadah. At Tahsin's request, Mahrum added, they met the next day at the same location. During their meeting, Mahrum said, another man there threw a West German passport on the table in front of him [words indistinct]. Mahrum said that later on he learned that that man was Abd al-Hadi Hamadah, chief of security in Hizballah and brother of Muhammad Hamadah. The Lebanese mediator asserted that his role as mediator is not over and that he will return to Beirut when the situation permits.

Mahrum Issues Denial

NC012144 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
2115 GMT 1 Mar 87

[Text] Rashid Mahrum, who is mediating for the release of two German hostages, has denied a report published by the German magazine (?*Quick*), in which he was alleged to have asked for DM3 million for supplying it with information on the negotiations with the kidnappers. Mahrum said the report is baseless.

In a contact with the Voice of Lebanon, Mahrum also denied the report published by *Der Spiegel*, in which he is said to have accused Hizballah of detaining the two Germans. He affirmed that this report is untrue, noting that he is not the source of such information.

PLO Official Claims Hostages in Hizballah Hands

LD282345 Rome Domestic Service in Italian
2300 GMT 28 Feb 87

[Text] In his interview with the ANSA news agency, Abu Iyad [Salah Khalaf], head of the PLO security services, has claimed that Western hostages, including Terry Waite, who, he said, was not very well, are still in the hands of pro-Iranian Hizballah extremists. Syria is said to be bringing pressure to bear on Iran for his release, but the government in Tehran now wants to ascertain if Damascus will modify its position in the Iran-Iraq conflict regarding the issue of the hostages.

Kan'an Says Release of Hostages Not Main Task

NC271800 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1715 GMT 27 Feb 87

[Text] Brigadier General Ghazi Kan'an, chief of Syrian military intelligence in Lebanon, has expressed the opinion that the release of the Western hostages is not part of the primary task being carried out by the Syrian forces, because the hostages are not in areas under Syrian control. Concerning the fate of Anglican emissary Terry Waite, he said Waite has become a hostage held by his abductors.

Further Kan'an Remarks

NC271826 Paris AFP in English 1825 GMT 27 Feb 87

[Excerpts] Beirut, Feb 27 (AFP) — General Ghazi Kan'an, the senior Syrian Army officer in Lebanon said he was prepared to order the release of kidnapped Lebanese, but that the freedom of foreign hostages had to be settled "politically," press reports said here Friday.

Gen. Kan'an issued what he called a "last warning" to those who detain "kidnapped people" — generally taken to be Lebanese who have been seized and sometimes kept for years by militia groups — to release them "immediately." [passage omitted]

The general gave out little hope for the more than 20 Western hostages in Lebanon in his statement reported by the Lebanese press Friday.

He ruled out any military intervention to save them and said "this affair must be solved politically and not militarily," but he added that no kidnapper would "dare to keep Western hostages in a sector under Syrian control." [passage omitted]

Says Efforts on Hostages Continue

NC280602 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
0515 GMT 28 Feb 87

[Text] Brigadier General Ghazi Kan'an, chief of Syrian intelligence in Lebanon, told REUTERS and the VIS news network last night that Syria is continuing its efforts to secure the release of the foreign hostages in Lebanon, but it does not know where the hostages are being held. He stressed that Damascus is seriously studying the possibility of rescuing them through force. He pointed out that this problem calls for maximum alertness, maturity, and care to achieve positive results and avoid their being harmed.

Kan'an denied that he has given Hizballah 1 month to withdraw from the southern suburb before the Syrian forces move toward this area. He said: We have given no grace period; when we enter this area, nobody will enjoy special status.

Syrians Working on Exchange

LD011933 Hamburg DPA in German 1826 GMT 1 Mar 87

[Text] [no dateline as received] — According to the daily *Die Welt*, Bonn and other Western capitals are studying diplomatic reports from the Middle East that the Syrian Government will handle the hostage drama in a way that will provide a solution in the foreseeable future. Mediators are exploring a proposal to release the kidnapped Germans Rudolf Cordes and Alfred Schmidt as a prelude to an international exchange of prisoners in several stages that would take account of U.S. concerns.

According to the report in the Monday edition of the paper, the first stage of a solution would be the trial by a German court of the Lebanese Muhammad 'Ali Hamadeh, member of the Islamic Hizballah, and his brother on a charge of illegally importing explosives. During the preparatory stage of accusing and then trying them before the Frankfurt court, the authorities concerned believe that the arrangements could be clarified for a multiple exchange along the lines of multiple spy exchanges.

Four Lebanese are in custody in the Federal Republic in connection with charges against Hizballah supporters accused of illegal acts. The U.S. might agree to the deportation of Hamadeh and the three other Lebanese after the trial if kidnapped Americans are set free.

Envoy on Al-Jumayyil Attitude Toward Syria

JN271900 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic
1730 GMT 27 Feb 87

[Text] Hani Salam, the official Lebanese envoy, has visited Damascus to inform Syrian officials of the results of contacts to hold a Lebanese-Syrian summit following his lengthy meeting with President al-Jumayyil. Hani Salam has for a long time been carrying out an important role in creating a favorable climate both between Beirut and Damascus and between West and East Beirut.

To throw further light on Lebanese-Syrian relations, we telephoned Hani Salam and asked him the following question:

[Begin recording] [Antoine Nawfal] You have continued your activities as the Lebanese president's envoy to Syria. You have carried out shuttle diplomacy between West and East Beirut and between Beirut and Damascus. There are now questions about the true state of relations between Baghdad and Syria, particularly following political and media interpretations of the statement by the General Directorate of the Lebanese Presidency. Can you clarify this matter?

[Hani Salam] Yes, Antoine. You are referring to the statement of the General Directorate of the Lebanese Presidency dated 21 February 1987?

[Nawfal] Yes.

[Salam] Local and world news agencies and newspapers have reported the statement issued by the General Directorate of the Lebanese Presidency dated 21 February 1987 inaccuratedly and have distorted some points in the statement which referred only to the unilateral [al-tafarrud] Lebanese request [for the entry of Syrian forces into Beirut], although his excellency the president justified this by referring to the pressing human and tragic circumstances recently experienced by the inhabitants of West Beirut and which made some Lebanese leaders turn directly to sister Syria for help in dealing with the situation. I would like to clarify the emphasis of the authorities on the policy they charted through initiatives for reconciliation, to which sister Syria has responded favorably, and that the authorities' contacts with Syrian officials led toward producing a plan for complete salvation.

I can confirm that President al-Jumayyil's attitude toward Syria has not changed at all, particularly toward His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad. He firmly believes a solution in Lebanon can be achieved only through the fraternal assistance which sister Syria has extended and continues to extend. Syria has demonstrated it is always concerned about Lebanon's security, safety, unity, independence, and sovereignty and about establishing the authority of Lebanese legal institutions throughout Lebanon.

[Nawfal] Thank you, Hani Salam, for this clarification which was expected by everyone. [end recording]

Continuing Reaction to Syrian Deployment

Paqraduni on Syrian Presence

NC271843 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic
1645 GMT 27 Feb 87

[Excerpts] Attorney Karim Paqraduni, deputy commander of the Lebanese Forces, gave an interview to the *Al-Afkar* magazine today. He said that the Syrian military intervention in West

Beirut was based upon an illegitimate request, because only the cabinet, and not the prime minister or the Chamber of Deputies, has the authority to ask for the entry of foreign troops into Lebanon.

According to Paqraduni, Syria has embarked on a difficult adventure by sending a massive number of troops to Lebanon. The greater the Syrian deployment, the more serious is its responsibility for areas that are not under legitimate Lebanese control, he said. Syria, he said, is now responsible for terrorism, the hostages, the Palestinian camps and the armed militias, as well as for the effects of any future laxity or terrorism.

Paqraduni believes that Syria ignored lebanon's legitimate authority and the president of the Republic in its decision to intervene, to protect the Amal Movement against Walid Junblatt and 'Arafat.

Paqraduni also believes that the idea of holding Syria responsible for Lebanon [talzim lubnan li suria] has been dropped; the United States is not in a position to do anything, because it is helpless as a result of an internal crisis, the Irangate affair. He contended that the United States will lack any political leadership until the end of Reagan's term of office in 1988. Therefore, no solutions will be proposed or attempted. [passage omitted]

Paqraduni said that the solution must not come from either Syria or Israel, at the expense or in favor of either. Instead, Lebanon must be declared neutral. In so doing, it is possible to avoid Syria's solution to the Lebanese crisis, and thus avoid antagonizing Israel. It is also possible to avoid the Israeli solution and thus avoid antagonizing Syria. [passage omitted]

The Lebanese Forces' deputy commander said that Lebanon is destined to remain the focus of a tug of war between two big states, which have expansion in mind. As long as we hold on to the independence of the state and of Lebanon's decision-making, he declared, we will always face problems with both Israel and Syria.

He continued: We are not against Syria as a state. Our difference with Syria is not in Damascus but in Lebanon. [passage omitted]

Paqraduni asserted that no solution is possible in Lebanon in the absence of the Lebanese Forces, which are the legitimate representative of the Lebanese Christians. He noted in this regard that the forces are calling for a Lebanese republic and not for a Christian one. He also asserted the forces' readiness to pay any price, no matter how dear, to maintain the independence of Lebanon and its decision-making. Only then, he concluded, can we say that we sacrificed martyrs and not victims.

Fadlallah Favors Intervention

LD280955 Hamburg DPA in German 0601 GMT 28 Feb 87

[Excerpt] Beirut, (DPA)—The spiritual leader of the pro-Iranian Shi'ite fundamentalist "Hizballah" (Party of God) in Lebanon is not against the Syrian troops entering the Shi'ite southern suburbs of West Beirut. Shaykh Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah said this in an interview with DPA on Saturday.

"We do not regard a Syrian entry into the southern suburbs, especially from the security point of view, any differently than one into West Beirut", Fadlallah said. Seven thousand Syrian elite soldiers have taken up positions in West Beirut since Sunday to prevent bloody battles among warring militias. However, so far they have not dared to move into the southern suburbs, which are seen as the bastion of the Hizballah and Shi'ite Amal militia and as the suspected location of around two dozen Western hostages.

Asked whether a Syrian entry would speed up the freeing of the hostages, Fadlallah said: "I would not like to speculate on that question. But I think this problem is complicated by political influences, which requires a lot of political harmony on a regional level. The problem certainly does not just have regional dimensions."

"I hope from the bottom of my heart that the hostage problem will be settled soon because it is a humanitarian problem which serves no political purpose", Fadlallah said. "I still don't think it solves any political problem."

Fadlallah approved the Syrian intervention in West Beirut, despite the "massacre in (the city district of) Basta, where 25 young men und women were murdered in cold blood without having fired a single shot", Fadlallah said. There may have been mistakes in carrying out the security plan. He is trying to calm down emotions so that there were no rash reactions.

Iran supported the Syrian intervention in West Beirut, Fadlallah said in the DPA interview. It could be a positive step to "end the state of decay in Lebanon and will allow people to catch their breath. We believe the Syrian intervention has brought successes in this direction."

"We don't see any political value in a conflict with the Syrians since it would make no sense and only bring harm to many of them", Fadlallah added. "Rather, we think that our Islamic goals would be served if peace, equilibrium and stability prevailed in the country."

Nothing would be solved, however, if the role of the militias (Hizballah and Amal) in the southern suburbs was ended, while the Christian militians remained intact in East Beirut and were able to fire on the southern suburbs.

Referring to the possibility of conflict between the Hizballah and Amal, Fadlallah said: "There are limits to what a Shi'ite leader can accept in respect of fighting within the Shi'ite community. Up to now I cannot see any possibility of such fights in the suburbs, however."

No internal or external power can liquidate the Islamic movement, Fadlallah said, since "it is not a party with a party structure. Rather, it encompasses the entire Islamic nation. It is a new form of political activity in which political and social aspects are interwoven...you may be able to kill or capture many leaders or people but you cannot throw a whole nation into prison. We are a nation, not a party."

According to information from political circles in Beirut, the Syrian secret service has given the Hizballah 1 month and 2 days to leave the southern suburbs. [passage omitted]

Comments on Bastah 'Massacre'

NC271731 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1645 GMT 27 Feb 87

[Text] Shaykh Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah has stressed that what took place at the Fathallah barracks in Al-Bastah on Tuesday was a massacre, and not a clash or security problem as has been reported. He said this action had absolutely no justification in terms of security. According to Fadlallah, it was an attempt to liquidate Islamic groups, rather than a security-related act of retaliation. He added: We refuse to believe that no Islamic political faction was targeted in the incident, as has been claimed by those concerned with the security plan.

Amal Official Favors Syrians

NC281943 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 28 Feb 87

[Excerpt] Dr Muhammad Baydun [Amal Movement Political Bureau member] has affirmed that the entry of Syrian forces into West Beirut constitutes one step toward rescuing the national and Islamic arena from dismemberment and division and another step toward returning matters to their normal course. Dr Baydun called for consolidating the security plan.

In an address during a eulogy held by the Amal Movement on the 7 day anniversary of the martyrdom of Husayn Ghaban, Dr Baydun stressed the need for the Syrian forces to enter the southern suburb within the context of the security plan, so that this suburb would not remain isolated and would again play its role of linking together the mountain, the south, and Beirut. [passage omitted]

Communist Party Welcomes Plan

NC281950 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1730 GMT 28 Feb 87

[Text] The Lebanese Communist Party has welcomed the Syrian-sponsored Damascus agreement, deeming it, along with the security plan that provides for the entry of Syrian forces into West Beirut, a guarantee for the restoration of Beirut's role, which has been lacking for years.

In a statement by the party's Politburo following its meeting today, the party called for stabilizing and consolidating the security plan, noting that it must be completed in conjunction with a democratic nationalist one. This would constitute a point of departure for all the nationalist forces on the basis of a democratic organizational formula.

The Lebanese Communist Party declared its pride in its more than 30-year alliance with the PSP, which is presently led by Walid Junblatt. The statement pointed out that while the PSP leadership and fighters' stance at the side of the Communist Party has reflected this historical alliance, it has also strengthened the ongoing efforts to restore unity among the nationalist ranks. This unity must be restored to face the schemes of the powers hostile to the Palestinian and Lebanese nationalist causes.

The statement called for adopting measures to remedy the [Palestinian] camps issue in a bid to end the bloodshed, normalize the Lebanese-Palestinian relations, and ensure the nonrecurrence of violations and wrongdoing, on the basis of the Palestinian revolution's continuing political and armed struggle. It stressed that the Lebanese Communist Party condemns the detentions and killings, particularly those in the south and in Beirut's southern suburb. The party declared that what makes this issue dangerous is the fact that it is taking place at a time when it is assumed that the Amal Movement is solely responsible for security in the south and in Beirut's [southern] suburb. All these acts that have been carried out under Amal responsibility have also resulted in communists and other nationalists falling as victims of the bullets of treachery. Such acts will only undermine resistance and distort the true meaning of the liberation of the land.

Nabih Birri Returns From Damascus 2 March

NC020922 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0915 GMT 2 Mar 87

[Text] Minister Nabih Birri returned to Beirut at 0800 today. Members of the Syrian forces accompanied him to his house in Barbur [in West Beirut]. Birri told a number of visitors that he had pledged not to return to Beirut until it became secure, which is now the case.

Further Reports on Syrian Presence in Beirut

2d Stage of Deployment 27 Feb

NC271244 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 27 Feb 87

[Excerpts] According to an official Syrian military source, the Syrian Arab forces began the second stage of their deployment at the prescribed positions in the second sector of the capital at dawn today. These forces have completed the first stage of their deployment in the first sector. Internal security forces personnel joined Syrian patrols at 0800 this morning to take up their fixed and mobile positions. They will continue to search places and buildings where, it is suspected, gunmen, arms, and ammunition are concealed. Seven ammunition caches were discovered today in the areas of Barbur, Saqiyat al-Janzir, and the vicinity of Beirut Hospital. [passage omitted]

In line with the policy of taking swift action to end all signs of subversion and anarchy, Brigadier General Ghazi Kan'an, chief of the Syrian forces intelligence and surveillance organ, said today that action is being taken all the time to close every security gap, deal with the outlaws' cells, and confiscate their supplies of arms and ammunition. Kan'an was speaking after attending a meeting called by Interior Minister Dr 'Abdallah al-Rasi this morning, at which Major General Sa'id Bayraqdar, commander of the Syrian forces in Lebanon, and 'Asim Qansuh, regional secretary of the Ba'th Party Organization in Lebanon, were also present. The conferees reviewed security conditions in Beirut in the aftermath of the deployment of the Syrian and internal security forces. [passage omitted]

Syrians, Amal, Army Meet

NC271504 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 27 Feb 87

[Text] An expanded security meeting was held at the Amal Movement's central operations room this afternoon. It was attended by Brigadier General Ghazi Kan'an, Colonel 'Ali Hammud, and 'Asim Qansuh. The Lebanese Army was represented by Col Lutfi Jabir, Major 'Atwah, Captain Khamsah, and Capt Nasrallah. The Amal Movement was represented by Col 'Akif Haydar, 'Aql Hamiyah, Ja'farite Mufti Shaykh 'Abd al-Amir Qabalan, and Shaykh Hasan Trad. The meeting was also attended by various other political and security leaders.

It has been learned from sources at the meeting that their discussion dealt with all aspects of the security plan, the situation at the airport, and other security issues.

Expand Deployment 28 Feb

NC281329 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 28 Feb 87

[Text] Internal security personnel and the Syrian Arab forces began their deployment at prescribed positions in the second and third sectors at 1130 today. Today's deployment involves the areas of 'Ayn al-Muraysah, Starco, Orly, Clemenceau, Caracas, Quraytam, Saqiyat al-Jinzir, Commodore, Zuqaq al-Balat, Karakul al-Duruz, Khandaq al-Ghamiq, and Al-Nuwayri.

Set Up Checkpoints, Seize Arms

NC281609 Beirut Voice of National Resistance in Arabic 1530 GMT 28 Feb 87

[Text] The measures to implement the security plan in West Beirut are continuing in full swing. The Syrian Arab Forces and internal security personnel set up 16 fixed checkpoints in various areas in the capital, instituted patrols, raided suspect buildings, and confiscated arms. Meanwhile, preparations are underway to enable the 12th Brigade to assume responsibility for security along the coastal line that extends from Beirut to as far as Sidon. Security sources said that the deployment of the 12th Brigade personnel will commence within the next few days.

Confiscate Publications 1 Mar

NC010737 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0545 GMT 1 Mar 87

[Excerpts] While the Syrian occupation army continues its campaign of raids, arrests, physical liquidation, and repression of free expression and liberties, those who are supposed to represent the wronged sons of West Beirut remain under the control of the Syrian regime. In the past few days the Syrians have moved beyond making security decisions and replacing Shi'ite partisan hegemony with their own to usurping political decisionmaking. [passage omitted]

The Syrian occupation army continues to control decisionmaking and freedom of expression. In the latest incident they confiscated *Al-Shira'* copies from the printing press yesterday and banned its distribution. Two days ago the Syrians confiscated copies of *Al-'Ahd*, which speaks for Hizballah, because it had published pictures of the Al-Bastah massacre.

Radio Free Lebanon has learned that media organs in West Beirut have received ultimatums from Syrian intelligence officers, warning them to censor their news reports, abstain from publishing reports about Syrian and Amal excesses, and check with the Syrian intelligence command regarding all security news of West Beirut and moves and political positions adopted by parties that reject Syrian hegemony and occupation.

APS Bureau Suspends Operations

NC010811 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0745 GMT 1 Mar 87

[Text] The APS [Algerie Press Service] bureau in West Beirut has announced that it will stop publishing news bulletins as of today, citing so-called compelling reasons beyond its control.

Syrians Threaten Southern Suburb

NC010922 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0845 GMT 1 Mar 87

[Text] The newspaper *Le Reveil* has quoted political sources in West Beirut as saying that a number of Syrian officers known for their ferocity, such as Major 'Ali Dib, have threatened that if Hizballah officials cling to their intransigent stands the Syrians will turn [West Beirut's] southern suburb into another Hamah, a reference to the Syrian city devastated during a conflict with the Muslim Brotherhood years ago. Maj Dib was involved in that conflict.

The sources add that the threats were accompanied by Syrian reinforcements in the area of the airport bridge, near Al-Ghubayrah, which is an entry point to the southern suburb.

These threats were followed by escalation of the conflict between Syrian occupation forces and Hizballah, including involvement of the Iranian Embassy in Beirut. The embassy has criticized Syrian intelligence actions against its employees, demanding that their vehicles be exempted from searches and that they be allowed to carry personal firearms. Security reports had earlier indicated that the Iranian Embassy is using diplomatic vehicles to transport Muslim fundamentalist gunmen to the southern suburb and Al-Biqa'.

In view of the increasing tension, a meeting of senior Hizballah officials was held at the residence of Hizballah member Shaykh Hasan Nasrallah yesterday to adopt measures necessary to confront the Syrians.

Ban Arms Carrying in Tripoli

NC011755 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1645 GMT 1 Mar 87

[Text] In a dispatch from Tripoli, AFP reported today that the Syrian forces have reinforced their presence in the town and set up mobile and fixed roadblocks in a search for arms. The agency added that the Syrian forces closed down party offices and issued a warning banning the carrying of arms in Tripoli as of this evening. It noted that the Syrian Social Nationalist Party [SSNP], the Ba'th Party Organization in Lebanon, the Communist Party, and the Arab Democratic Party were among those involved in the warning.

AFP added that the Syrian forces have adopted similar measures in Al-Biqa' against Hizballah, the Amal Movement, and the SSNP. The agency pointed out that the Syrian soldiers set up roadblocks on the main roads and at the approaches to Ba'labakk, the stronghold of Hizballah.

In another development, AFP reported that Syrian reinforcements were brought into West Beirut this afternoon to support the force that entered the area on 22 February. The agency correspondent said that the Syrian force used Dahr al-Baydar and Al-Damur Road en route to Beirut.

Syrian Vehicle Burned 2 Mar

NC020608 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0556 GMT 2 Mar 87

[Text] We received a report a little while ago indicating that a heavy exchange of gunfire has been heard in Ra's al-Matn and Falughah [in Jabal Lubnan]. The report adds that a military vehicle belonging to the Syrian occupation army was set on fire. Three soldiers were in the vehicle. The circumstances of the incident have not yet been clarified.

40 Antiaircraft Guns Arrive

NC020716 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 2 Mar 87

[Text] The Syrian forces brought in new reinforcements yesterday. A convoy of some 40 23-mm and 40-mm antiaircraft guns towed by trucks arrived in Beirut via the Dayr al-Qamar-Kafr Him-Al-Damur Road. Several hundred soldiers who accompanied the convoy deployed at Syrian positions in West Beirut and around Beirut International Airport.

Hizballah Determined To Remain

NC020759 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0745 GMT 2 Mar 87

[Text] Hizballah has asserted that it will remain in Beirut and in the southern suburb, asserting that no one can harm it. It has issued a statement announcing: We do not fear death, and will preserve our Islamic faith. If we are killed, we love to be killed. Hizballah also declared that those who come to Lebanon will sink in Beirut's mud and sand.

Airport Road Reopened

NC021028 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1015 GMT 2 Mar 87

[Text] One lane of the airport road has been reopened to two-way traffic from the Al-Rasul al-'Anzam Mosque to the airport building. The earthen ramparts along the road have been removed.

UNRWA Trucks Prevented From Entering Shatila

JN271909 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1730 GMT 27 Feb 87

[Text] In Beirut a Palestinian source has told AFP that two trucks entered Shatila camp today. The first truck was carrying flour while the second was carrying dried milk. A third truck carrying medical supplies was confiscated by Amal, according to the Palestinian source. In a telephone conversation a short while ago, a PLO spokesman in Tunis asserted that all UNRWA trucks were prevented from entering the Shatila camp and were expropriated. It was also learned from Tunis that the Arab League committee charged with finding a solution to the camps problem will meet in Tunis on 1 March.

Amal Denies Camps Besieged

NC281738 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 28 Feb 87

[Text] The Amal Movement today accused the pro-'Arafat gunmen of being responsible for the sudden flare-up along the Burj al-Barajinah combat lines this morning. Residential areas around the camp were bombarded with 60-mm artillery rounds at 0930, but the situation gradually subsided at 1100. Meanwhile, Amal denied that there have been security incidents along the Shatila lines.

The Amal Movement's Fifth Branch issued a statement today in which it denied that residential areas were bombarded from mountain artillery emplacements. It dismissed as completely baseless Palestinian allegations that the camps in Tyre and the southern suburb are still besieged.

In another development, the Amal Movement Command received a cable from the UNRWA Middle East director in which he expressed his thanks for the strenuous efforts that the movement and its leader Minister Nabih Birri had made to facilitate the entry of provisions into the Palestinian camps. Amal's social services office, which supervised the entry of provisions, also received a special thank-you cable in this regard.

Nurse Cites Amal Atrocities

NC011319 Paris AFP in English 1318 GMT 1 Mar 87

[Excerpt] Nicosia, March 1 (AFP) — Palestinians in Beirut's Burj al-Barajinah refugee camp, who have been allowed out for the past 12 days to buy food, have been made to pay dearly for the privilege by the Amal Shi'ite militiamen who have held the camp under siege for four months, according to a Dutch nurse inside the camp. The nurse, Ben Alof, said in a telephone interview Sunday that six Palestinians had been killed, including a little girl, and 20 had been beaten or humiliated when they left the camp in the Shi'ite southern suburbs to buy food.

He said "humiliations" to which the women and young girls were subjected by militia included accompanying men to the supermarkets and making them pay two or three times the price for the goods they buy.

"When they get back, often, the militia confiscate or burn what they have bought," Mr. Alof said. "They force some of them to crawl, while they shoot them in the legs. One 13-year-old girl was gunned down like that, at the same time as two other women on Wednesday." [passage omitted]

Convoy Enters Camps 1 Mar

NC011527 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1500 GMT 1 Mar 87

[Text] Guarded calm prevails on the combat lines of the Shatila and Burj al-Barajinah camps following clashes involving the use of automatic weapons and rockets at noon today. A supply convoy entered both the Burj al-Barajinah and Shatila camps today under the supervision of Syrian observers.

Killer of French Attache Reveals Network

NC282104 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
2015 GMT 28 Feb 87

[Excerpt] Muhammad Hasan Tulays, who was arrested while trying to park a booby-trapped car in Al-Hazimiyah on 6 February, has confessed that he is part of a terrorist network which was responsible for the assassination of French Military Attache Christian Goutierre in Mar Taqla on 18 September 1986. He also confessed that the network was responsible for the assassination attempt against former President Camille Sham'un on 7 January 1987, for blowing up a booby-trapped car in Furn al-Shubbak on 21 January 1986, for a car explosion in Al-Zalqah on 30 January 1987, and for an attempt to blow up a gas tanker in Al-Dawrah.

Tulays has said that he himself fired six bullets at French Colonel Goutierre.

Investigations have uncovered a workshop for rigging cars and making explosive charges in Al-Mukallas. Tulays has also revealed the names of the network members in the western sector [of Beirut]. Among them are two people called Kamil Fayyad and 'Aziz Yusuf.

President al-Jumayyil telephoned former President Camille Sham'un this evening and informed him of the results of the investigations with Tulays, who confessed to parking the booby-trapped car in the Al-Nahr Road, while his companion blew it up. [passage omitted]

Car Bomb Seized, Driver Arrested 28 February

NC011248 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1130 GMT 1 Mar 87

[Excerpts] A security source of the forces charged with maintaining security in West Beirut has made the following statement:

On 28 February, the security force charged with maintaining security in West Beirut arrested Lebanese citizen Rida Ahmad Zumayt, who was born in Al-Hirmil in 1969, resides in (Ru'aysat al-Jadidah), and works as an auto mechanic, in possession of a car rigged with 150 kg of explosives. [passage omitted]

The car had traveled on the Al-Kafa'at Road toward West Beirut. The driver was arrested and the car siezed in the Al-Barbir area. The plan had been to blow up the car in one of the following areas: Sports city, Summerland street, Al-Maramil, Tallat al-'Awza'i, or near the Al-Maqasid Hospital.

During interrogation the driver said he was given this task by the Lebanese Forces' security department, on instructions from Michel Butrus, director of the mixed school in Sayyidat al-Matn, and from a man called Ilyas 'Awn.

As the Lebanese Forces are held completely responsible for such acts of sabotage, the security authorities in West Beirut warn these people against engaging in such actions in the future, because they have been exposed.

Lebanese Front Says No Dispute With Al-Jumayyil

NC271409 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1215 GMT 27 Feb 87

[Text] An official spokesman for the Lebanese Front declared today that since the entry of the Syrian Army into West Beirut, newspapers published in the western area have been waging a tendentious and deceptive campaign aimed at sowing discord between the president of the Republic and the Lebanese Front, in order to distract attention from the illegitimate Syrian entry. Within this context, certain newspapers, including *Al-Safir*, reported today that President al-Jumayyil had asked the Lebanese Forces to leave East Beirut. The papers said the request was made during a meeting attended by Attorney Karim Paqraduni, deputy commander of the Lebanese Forces.

The spokesman declared that this report is baseless, adding that President al-Jumayyil did not raise the question of the departure of the Lebanese Forces. Indeed, the topic of discussion was the illegitimate entry of the Syrian forces into West Beirut. The spokesman noted that, during the meeting, the conferees reaffirmed their united position and the front's support for the president's declared stand on the illegitimate entry of the Syrian forces into Beirut. The front's delegation affirmed that any Syrian presence in Lebanon is illegitimate, not only the recent entry into West Beirut.

Israeli Warships Reportedly Bombard Sidon 2 Mar

NC020911 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 0900 GMT 2 Mar 87

[Text] Israeli warships bombarded Sidon and adjacent areas at 0930 today for some 30 minutes.

At 1000, Lahd artillery bombarded the areas of Jarju' and Al-Nabatiyah, while the Israeli occupation forces stationed in [Tallat Turrah] pounded the towns of Habbush and Kafr Rumman. In the meantime, Israeli helicopters were flying over Al-'Ayshiyah, Sujud, the 'Arab Salim hills, and Al-Luwayzah.

Reportage on Meetings With Lebanese Officials

Khaddam Meets Officials

JN281340 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 28 Feb 87

[Text] Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam received Husayn al-Husayni, speaker of the Lebanese Chamber of Deputies; Lebanese Prime Minister Rashid Karami; Dr Salim al-Huss, Lebanese minister of education and labor; Minister of Justice Nabih Birri; and Walid Junblatt, Lebanese minister of public works and tourism at 1330 today. People's Assembly Speaker Mahmud al-Zu'bi, Prime Minister Dr 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm, and Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' attended the meeting.

The talks revolved around the Lebanese situation and the steps taken since Syria's response to the Lebanese brothers' request to extend military aid to restore security and tranquillity to West Beirut. The talks also dealt with the requirements of the coming stage. The Lebanese brothers expressed their appreciation for Syria's help.

Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam had received PSP leader Walid Junblatt and the PSP Political Bureau members at 1100 today. The talks dealt with the situation in Lebanon in light of the military assistance extended by Syria to establish security and end the abnormal state of affairs in West Beirut.

Junblatt on Meeting

NC281322 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1230 GMT 28 Feb 87

[Excerpts] Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam received PSP leader Walid Junblatt, leading a delegation of all the PSP Politburo Members, at 1100 today. [passage omitted]

After the 2-hour meeting, Junblatt said: We made clear the PSP's views on the painful incidents in Beirut. He added: Naturally, we want to let bygones be bygones and start a new page in a genuine national and democratic Arab alliance with all forces in Lebanon, including the Amal Movement. However, Junblatt said: We must set down clear principles for this national action to serve this alliance in Lebanon and the interest of the strategic alliance with Syria.

Monte Carlo on Talks

JN281435 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1200 GMT 28 Feb 87

[Louis Faris dispatch from Damascus]

[Text] Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam received PSP leader Walid Junblatt and the PSP Political Bureau members this morning. The talks dealt with the situation in Lebanon in light of the military assistance extended by Syria to establish security and end the abnormal state of affairs in West Beirut.

Following this meeting, which lasted 2 hours, Junblatt told reporters: We have explained the PSP's views on the painful incidents that took place. Naturally, we want to turn the page and open new avenues for a real national and democratic Arab alliance with all forces in the Lebanese arena as well as with the Amal Movement. Junblatt added: However, we should naturally agree to clear principles for this national action in favor of the national action in Lebanon and the strategic alliance with Syria.

In another development, [Lebanese Chamber of Deputies] Speaker Husayn al-Husayni arrived in Damascus this morning and held talks with senior Syrian officials. [Former Lebanese Prime Minister] Salim al-Huss and Prime Minister Rashid Karami also arrived in Damascus today. Karami and Al-Huss held a closed meeting at Al-Rawdah palace attended by Speaker al-Husayni.

Following Khaddam's meeting with the PSP Political Bureau members, an expanded meeting began at Khaddam's office in the presence of the five Lebanese leader: Husayn al-Husayni, Rashid Karami, Salim al-Huss, Nabih Birri, and Walid Junblatt. Syrian People's Assembly Speaker Mahmud al-Zu'bi, Prime Minister Dr 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm, and Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' attended the meeting, which was still going on as this report was being prepared.

It is noteworthy that all political circles attach great importance to today's Damascus meetings, which constitute the beginning of a solution to the Lebanese crisis. This requires either expediting a Syrian-Lebanese summit or holding a Lebanese Cabinet session to reconcile the leaders opposing President Amin al-Jumayyil — beginning with the five Lebanese leaders' meeting — in light of the Lebanese president's desire to seek the arbitration of Damascus, which will try to reconcile the working paper proposed by President al-Jumayyil with the opposition proposals and remarks. In this regard, it will be recalled Lebanese presidential envoy Eng Hani Salam had earlier briefed President al-Jumayyil on the results of his talks in Damascus. Last night the Lebanese president discussed this subject with the presidential delegation members who are charged with holding talks with Syria.

The conferees meeting in Damascus today are expected to evaluate the results of the West Beirut security plan whose implementation began a week ago. They will also deal with the political crisis and try to overcome the outstanding difficulties.

In the meantime, the Syrian forces in Beirut, in cooperation with the Lebanese Army, continue to implement the necessary measures to entrench the security plan, now that calm and stability have prevailed in all parts of the western part of the capital. Measures are under way to deploy the Lebanese 12th Brigade on the coastal road between Beirut and Sidon as soon as possible and perhaps within 1 or 2 days.

Second Meeting Held

JN281951 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 28 Feb 87

[Text] Damascus — A meeting was held in Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam's office at 1800 today. It was attended by

Husayn al-Husayni, speaker of the Lebanese Chamber of Deputies; Rashid Karami, Lebanese prime minister; Dr Salim al-Huss, minister of education and labor; Nabih Birri, minister of justice and reconstruction of the south; and Walid Junblatt, Lebanese minister of public works and tourism. People's Assembly Speaker Mahmud al-Zu'bi, Prime Minister Dr 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm, and Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' also attended.

The conferees continued their discussion of the topics discussed during the first meeting, which was held in the vice president's office at 1330 today. Talks revolved around the Lebanese situation and the steps taken since Syria's response to the Lebanese brothers' request to extend military aid to restore security and tranquility to West Beirut. Talks also dealt with the requirements of the coming stage. The Lebanese brothers also expressed their appreciation for Syria's help.

Birri on Syrian Forces

NC011229 Beirut Voice of National Resistance in Arabic 0600 GMT 1 Mar 87

[Text] In a short interview on the periphery of the meeting [in Damascus on 28 February] Minister Nabih Birri said: Any political plan would be useless until legitimate security is imposed in greater Beirut. Only then can a serious discussion of political reforms be fruitful and objective, unaffected by any influences that could obstruct a political agreement.

Asked when the Syrian Arab forces will enter Beirut's southern suburb, Minister Birri said: Security measures should concern all of greater Beirut. On the situation in and around the camps, Minister Birri said that when 'Arafat's fighters withdraw from east Sidon, the siege on the camps in all areas will be lifted completely. However, we are now allowing all the supplies our Palestinian brothers need into the camps, Birri said.

Discussing future relations with the Palestinians, the Amal Movement leader said this will be determined during security meetings that will ensure the right of Palestinians and Lebanese to live honorable lives.

Talks Resume 1 March

JN011356 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 1 Mar 87

[Text] Syrian and Lebanese officials resumed talks at Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam's office at 1200 today, continuing their discussion of issues tackled at the two meetings held yesterday. Vice President 'Abd al- Halim Khaddam, People's Assembly Speaker Muhmud al-Zu'bi, Prime Minister 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm, and Foreign Affairs Minister Faruq al-Shar' attended the meeting for Syria. The meeting was attended on the Lebanese side by Husayn al- Husayni, speaker of the Lebanese Chamber of Deputies; Rashid Karami, Lebanese prime minister; Dr Salim al-Huss, minister of education and Labor; Nabih Birri, minister of justice and reconstruction of the south; and Walid Junblatt, Lebanese minister of public works and tourism. The issues under discussion deal with the Lebanese situation, ways to handle it, achieving progress on the road to national accord and national solution, the accomplishments made possible by the Syrian military assistance being provided to restore peace, order, and normalcy to West Beirut, and successive steps to be taken.

Karami on Draft Reform Plan

NC011448 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 1 Mar 87

[Text] Prime Minister Rashid Karami said in Damascus today that agreement has been reached on draft plan for reforms in Lebanon. This came following a third round of talks held yesterday and today by Lebanese political leaders with Syrian officials. Prime Minister Karami refused to disclose the details of this plan, but he told newsmen: As a result of the continuous discussions, agreement was reached on a draft plan which, in its essence, serves the national interest and calls for political reforms in Lebanon. We hope that subsequent talks between the Lebanese and Syrian sides will take place in accordance with what we have agreed upon so the deadlock in the Lebanese crisis can end.

He added: We are waiting for what will happen in the future, and we will define our position by what we think will be in the interest of our country.

Prime Minister Karami told the newsmen that he and the other Lebanese officials will return to Beirut later today.

Talks Conclude

JN011927 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 1 Mar 87

[Text] Syrian-Lebanese meetings, which were held in Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam's office over the past two days, were concluded this afternoon. On the Syrian side the meetings were attended by People's Assembly Speaker Mahmud al-Zu'bi, Prime Minister 'Abd al-Ra'uf al- Kasm, and Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar', and on the Lebanese side by Speaker of the Chamber of Deputies Husayn al-Husayni, Prime Minister Rashid Karami, and Ministers Dr Salim al-Huss, Nabih Birri, and Walid Junblatt. The discussions dealt with the overall situation in Lebanon. They also made a general assessment of the successful implementation of the security plan through the Syrian military assistance extended in response to the request of the Lebanese brethren.

The Lebanese side said they were happy with the results achieved thus far and hoped for follow-up measures. In this regard, they said, the Lebanese were extremely happy with the success of the security plan and urged outlaws harassing the residents of Beirut be hunted down. The Lebanese brethren expressed their thanks to President al-Asad for his pan-Arab, humanitarian decision to meet the Lebanese request for Syrian military assistance to restore security, calm, and normalcy to West Beirut, and end the abnormal conditions that were prevailing there. They stressed the Lebanese will not forget President al-Asad's brotherly stands on

Lebanon. They also stressed they reject any form of autonomous security [al-amn al-dhati] for the Lebanese and Palestinians alike. The Lebanese brethren said security should be handled by one authority, and they regard any attempt at autonomous security to be an act designed to help dismember Lebanon, prolong the civil war, and further the interests of the Israeli enemy.

It was agreed the two sides would pursue the dialogue with a view to achieving a national reconciliation in Lebanon that would save it from Israeli occupation, internal strife, and the hard economic and social conditions in which the Lebanese are living. The figures that participated in the meetings reached a common undestanding on the ideas discussed as a basis for national reconciliation. They also agreed on the need for a cohesive national front to expedite the rehabilitation of Lebanon and to work toward meeting the aspirations of the Lebanese for security, peace, stability, and a decent living.

The Syrian side reiterated Syria's adherence to the pan-Arab stand as made clear by President Hafiz al-Asad; namely, that Syria has decided to stand by Lebanon.

'Abnormal Practices' in Beirut 'Gone Forever'

JN021043 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 2 Mar 87

[Press review]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] *Tishrin* affirms security now prevails in West Beirut, and the abnormal practices that placed heavy losses on the Lebanese people, have gone forever. *Tishrin* says: The course of events has proven the Syrian intervention came at the right time. All Lebanese people rallied around the nation's soldiers in Beirut and expressed great appreciation for the brave Syrian step. The people who are at the mercy of militias are eager for freedom of will, freedom of expression, and the destruction of barriers between the sons of the one capital and the one homeland. Our fraternal Lebanese people living in areas where militias tamper are suffering greatly. The crisis no longer revolves around differences on methods of fraternal coexistence. It has become a crisis of armed men accustomed to behaving abnormally and brutally and loyally to foreign sides hostile to Lebanon and that are working openly and covertly to divide it, explode it, and end its existence and role in the region.

Tishrin concludes: Syria's pan-Arab initiative has prepared the circumstances to revive the political efforts aimed at ending the Lebanese crisis on the basis of true political and social reforms. The recents events have affirmed the need to cancel sectarianism. Lebanon's enemies have not only succeeded in exacerbating sectarian disputes but have also sowed sedition among the sons of the one party. The circumstances are now prepared to resume the march of national dialogue. The security that prevails in West Beirut will have a positive effect on entrenching security in all Lebanese areas on the basis of internal reconciliation. In this respect, the Damascus meetings constitute the beginning of a national reconciliation plan to end the crisis and restore security and vitality to Lebanon.

AL-QABAS on Al-Asad Moscow Visit, Beirut Actions

JN281133 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 26 Feb 87 p 19

[Text] Paris — Ranking Arab sources have revealed to *Al-Qabas* that Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad is determined to bring the security situation in West Beirut under control before he pays a visit to the USSR at the invitation of Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev. The sources stressed Al-Asad will visit Moscow in March for important political talks with Gorbachev and other Soviet officials on Lebanese affairs, Syrian-Palestinian relations, the possibilities of convening an international peace conference, and the developments of the Iraq-Iran war.

The sources said Gorbachev extended an official invitation to Al-Asad to visit Moscow as soon as possible out of his desire to consult and coordinate with the Syrian president on Syria's role in the proposed international peace conference and on how the Palestinians will be represented at this conference, particularly the PLO's role in any new peace negotiations. The sources added that Al-Asad's desire to bring the security situation in West Beiiut under control as soon as possible has made him send a large Syrian force to the Lebanese capital to halt the fighting between the Amal Movement and the Lebanese nationalist alliance. The Syrian force that entered Beirut is comprised of approximately 7,000 troops, including special forces. This force is backed by 70 tanks, 40 armored vehicles, heavy guns, and surface-to-air missile batteries.

Informed Syrian sources told *Al-Qabas* that additional Syrian forces will be sent to the Lebanese capital if they are needed. This is the largest Syrian force to enter Beirut since the Israeli invasion of Lebanon in 1982.

A ranking Lebanese source told *Al-Qabas* the Syrian officials asked the Lebanese Islamic leaders during their meeting in Damascus over the weekend to give the Syrian forces a free hand in West Beirut as a condition for bringing the security situation under control and ending the militias' rule in this part of the Lebanese capital. The Lebanese leaders agreed to this Syrian demand.

Al-Qabas has learned from ranking Lebanese sources that President Al-Asad recently informed Lebanese leaders Syria will not accept the establishment of an Islamic republic in Lebanon similar to the Islamic Republic of Iran, and that Syria will do its best to foil such a plan at the appropriate time and with suitable means. This does not conflict with Syria's eagerness to maintain good relations with Iran.

Informed Arab sources told *Al-Qabas* the Syrian officials had proposed to Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati and Mohsen Rafiqdust, minister of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, that they allow Syrian forces to enter the southern suburb in stages. In the first stage, a symbolic Syrian force would enter the southern suburb from the premise that security in West Beirut is indivisible and that the reopening of Beirut International Airport and the solution of the problem of the Palestinian camps requires this Syrian presence in the southern suburb. The sources added that Velayati and Rafiqdust carried this Syrian proposal to Tehran so a reply could be made to it. Velayati and Rafiqdust left Damascus for Tehran last Tuesday night following talks with President al-Asad and other Syrian officials. Velayati and Rafiqdust also carried with them another Syrian proposal on the release of Terry Waite and other Western hostages held captive in Lebanon. It is known that the southern suburb is the stronghold of those who support Iran, particularly Hizballah. The death of 23 Hizballah elements in Al-Basta last Tuesday at the hands of a Syrian patrol clearly shows that the Syrians are determined to bring the security situation in West Beirut under control and to make all parties concerned understand this. Informed Lebanese sources said that following this incident, Hizballah began to reinfoce its positions in the southern suburb to counter any eventuality.

With respect to the Palestinians, an informed Syrian source told *Al-Qabas* the Syrian command seeks a political settlement of the Palestinian camps problem, and the Syrian forces have been ordered to avoid any military confrontation with the Palestinians. Arab sources were cited as saying President al-Asad wants to avoid any military confrontation with the Palestinians, particularly before his Moscow visit, because he knows the Soviet leadership is eager to maintain a strong Palestinian card in light of the talk about an international peace conference for the settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Informed Lebanese sources told *Al-Qabas* one of the proposals is that the pro-'Arafat Palestinian fighters will withdraw from the camps in Beirut and that Palestinian fighters who do not support 'Arafat will assume the task of protecting these camps. The sources add this proposal will probably be rejected by the PLO, which will ask for new political guarantees for any settlement of the camps problem.

In any case, future developments in West Beirut depend to a large extent on Iran's stand on the Syrian proposals and on the developments that took place in Beirut over the past 2 days.

Oil Minister Departs for Soviet Union 1 March

JN011639 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1200 GMT 1 Mar 87

[Text] Damascus, 1 Mar (SANA) — Dr Ghazi al-Durubi, minister of oil and mineral wealth, and the delegation accompanying him left Damascus for Moscow today on a visit to the USSR. This visit falls within the framwork of the meetings of the joint Syrian-Soviet subcommittee to discuss areas of bilateral cooperation in the oil industry and exploration. His meetings with senior Soviet officials will also deal with benefits from Soviet expertise in the field of phosphate mine development in Syria.

Peres To Resume 'Secret Contacts' With Husayn

TA011308 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 1 Mar 87 p 3

[Report by Ilan Kfir and Amnon Levi]

[Excerpt] Foreign Minister Peres and Egyptian President Mubarak will continue direct contacts on the composition of a Palestinian delegation for negotiations; they will simultaneously continue to promote the international conference issue with the United States and Jordan. Foreign Ministry Bureau Director Uri Savir said last night that significant progress had been made on the composition of the delegation.

In his talks with the president, Peres rejected the possibility of including PLO representatives, saying he was interested in a formula that would enable Jordan to submit a list of Palestinians who would win Israel's approval without being vetoed by Palestinian leaders.

Sources in the Foreign Ministry Bureau point out the participation of former Egyptian Prime Minister Mustafa Khalil in the contacts with Peres in Cairo, instead of 'Usamah al-Baz, is an expression of President Mubarak's more moderate stance on the question of Palestinian representation.

In their concluding talk, Peres and Mubarak agreed on the joint communique stating that Israel and Egypt are striving to convene an international conference that would be held this year and that would ultimately lead to direct negotiations between the parties.

President Mubarak agreed the powers that participate in the conference will have to recognize Israel and will not be able to interfere in the negotiations. The Egyptian president informed Peres he intended to work for the resumption of diplomatic relations between the PRC and the Soviet Union and Israel. Egyptian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Majid said special U.S. envoy Richard Murphy would be visiting Egypt, Israel, and Jordan next week to discuss the chances for peace in the region. According to Arab observers, Egypt is not worried at this stage about the worsening differences of opinion in the Israeli Government, although the Egyptians hope Peres will emerge the victor.

Officials in the Foreign Ministry claim that in the wake of his visit to Cairo, the foreign minister plans to resume his secret contacts with Husayn to promote the peace process under the auspices of an international conference. Peres also will soon hold renewed contacts with the U.S. Administration to give the peace process renewed impetus. The foreign minister personally thanked the director of his ministry, Avraham Tamir, for his important contribution to the success of his visit to Cairo and for the agreements reached, and told him to vigorously promote the momentum of the peace contacts. [passage omitted]

Contacts Soviets

TA020758 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 2 Mar 87 p 1

[Report by political correspondent 'Aqiva Eldar]

[Text] Shim'on Peres, vice prime minister and foreign minister, has recently been holding contacts with the Soviet Union, through mediators, to clear the ground for that country's participation in an international conference.

Last week, Peres expressed his view another Helsinki-style meeting with the Soviets is likely. This month, Edgar Bronfman, the president of the World Jewish Congress and a friend of Peres, will depart for Moscow bearing a message to the Kremlin leaders.

Yesterday Peres welcomed the resumed Soviet-U.S. dialogue on the arms race. Senior Jerusalem political sources expressed their view this could have a positive effect on the efforts to bring about a Soviet-Israeli dialogue on the resumption of ties and changes in the emigration policy.

Dr Nimrod Novik, the foreign minister's political adviser, has recently held meetings in the United States with some members of the U.S. delegation that recently visited Moscow. Delegation members former Secretaries of State Dr Henry Kissinger and Cyrus Vance, and former UN Ambassador Jeane Kirkpatrick, who conveyed a message from Peres, reported on a fundamental change in the Soviet Union's attitude toward Jews and the emigration issue.

Peres, PLO Reach 'Tacit Understanding'

TA021146 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 2 Mar 87 p 6

[Report by Nadav Ha'etzni]

[Text] Political sources in the West Bank have said Foreign Minister Peres and PLO leaders have reached a tacit understanding on the five West Bank Palestinians who will be among the Jordanian-Palestinian delegation to the peace talks. According to these sources, clandestine and indirect negotiations were recently held between Peres and the PLO leadership through the Egyptian president.

The sources, basing themselves on information from abroad and inside information, claim that around the time Peres arrived in Egypt, an understanding was reached on five public figures directly identified with the PLO. According to that information, Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir], who heads the PLO's military branch, secretly visited Cairo last Sunday and sanctioned the five-member list. At the same time, these names were also presented to Shim'on Peres.

According to the information, Peres agreed to approve the five names as partners to the negotiations, thereby actually creating a historic agreement between an Israeli foreign minister and the top PLO leadership on sitting together at the negotiating table.

The five names are: Hanna Sinyurah, editor of *Al-Fajr*; Fayiz Abu Rahmah, an attorney from Gaza; Prof Muhammad (Shadid), who until recently was a lecturer at Al-Najah University in Nabulus; Dr Hatim Abu Ghazalah from Nabulus; and Prof Sa'ib 'Ariqat, a lecturer at Al- Najah University. 'Ariqat's candidacy is not entirely certain, as Dr Sari Nusaybah and Mustafah al-Natshah's names were mentioned as substitutes.

The East Jerusalem sources have maintained contacts with knowledgeable Palestinian sources abroad over the last few days. The latter related 'Usamah al-baz, the Egyptian president's adviser, visited Amman in the middle of last week, where he held a secret meeting with 'Arafat's political adviser. The list of PLO-supporting Palestinians was apparently then conveyed to Egypt and later discussed between Mubarak and Peres.

According to the East Jerusalem sources, last month Peres associates, including 'Ezer Weizman, held meeting with pro-PLO Palestinians, and the latter were asked if they would consent to participate in a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation to the negotiations. It has been reported the Palestinians said they would participate only if they received approval from the PLO.

Hadashot has learned one of the meetings was held approximately 2 weeks ago, when Minister 'Ezer Weizman dined with three PLO-supporting Palestinian public figures: Mustafa al-Natshah, former mayor of Hebron; Mahmud Abu Zalaf, editor of *Al-Quds*; and Jamil al-Tarifi, former deputy mayor of Ramallah. As far as is known, Palestinian representation in the peace negotiations was the main topic at that meeting.

The five people on the proposed list are known as supporters of Fatah. Hanna Sinyurah and Fayiz Abu Rahmah were approved by Peres as representatives to the negotiations as far back as when he was prime minister. Five police investigations have recently been launched against Hanna Sinyurah on suspicion of violating of the antiterror act. Fayiz Abu Rahmah was recently banned from departing for a conference in the United States. Rabin explained at the time that his trip could constitute a security threat to Israel.

A few months ago, 'Ariqat's work permit was revoked after he was convicted of hostile activity. Since he carries a U.S. passport, he was forced to leave his job at Al-Najah University. Prof 'Ariqat was recently convicted of possessing hostile material in his office on the university premises.

Hanna Sinyurah is expected back tonight, after a month-long stay out of the country. As far as is known, he partook in the contacts to draw up the list of Palestinians during that stay.

Sources Deny Shamir Requested Mubarak Meeting

TA011242 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 1 Mar 87 p 1

[Report by Ilan Kfir]

[Excerpt] Egyptian President Husni Mubarak recently considered Israeli initiatives for a meeting with Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir. A senior Egyptian official, close to the president, disclosed to the *Hadashot* correspondent in Cairo that in the past few months Shamir sent out feelers for the possibility of his meeting with Mubarak. The Egyptian president, however, was not enthusiastic about this in view of what he claimed were "Shamir's positions on the peace issue."

The Egyptian figure claimed Mubarak had postponed his visit to Washington, planned for February, in order not "to bump into" Shamir.

Officials close to the prime minister said last night there was absolutely no truth to the claims by Egyptian sources that Shamir had requested a meeting with Mubarak and had been rejected by him.

Significant concern prevails within the Egyptian senior echelon over Shamir's total opposition to an international conference. Egyptian newspapers have recently resumed their attacks on the prime minister. The Israeli Embassy in Cairo has protested to those papers about the hostile reports against Shamir. [passage omitted]

Debate Continues on International Peace Summit

Shamir Waits for Briefing

TA271413 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1400 GMT 27 Feb 87

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir says he prefers not to react at this point to the remarks made by Vice Prime Minister Peres upon his arrival from Egypt and to the agreement [sikum] Peres reached with President Mubarak. He is waiting to be briefed by Minister Peres about the talks before reacting.

However, officials from the Prime Minister's Office told our correspondent Hayim Zissowitz the foreign minister did not give Egypt an Israeli commitment to participate in an international conference. The foreign minister is scheduled to brief the government about his talks in Cairo on Sunday.

Shamir Not To Initiate Crisis

TA271857 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew
1815 GMT 27 Feb 87

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir does not intend to initiate a move toward dissolving the government following the joint Israeli-Egyptian communique on an international conference. The joint communique was issued today in Cairo and in Israel upon the conclusion of Shim'on Peres' visit to Egypt. Our correspondent Yoram Ronen reports that this afternoon the prime minister held a consultation [not further specified] and expressed the hope Mr Peres had not undertaken a commitment for Israel to participate in an international conference. Shamir does not intend to initiate a meeting with Peres to hear about his visit to Egypt. Apparently he is currently settling with the clarification that Peres' understandings in Cairo are not binding on the government.

Peres Views Obstacles

TA271953 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew
1815 GMT 27 Feb 87

[Interview with Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres by political correspondent Yig'al Goren on 27 February — videorecorded]

[Text] [Goren] Mr Peres, in light of the results of your visit, do you seen any practical possibility of advancing the peace process considering the Israeli political situation?

[Peres] If no real obstacles are put in the way of the peace process, then yes. If someone wants to stop it, we will have a problem.

[Goren] Do you believe that in the present circumstances there will be a need to reach political verdicts, or will it be possible to continue what has been agreed upon in Alexandria and also here in the last 2 days without any political changes?

[Peres] Political verdicts may be possible after the entire framework is completed, including both the procedures and the participants, but this will take more time. However, if anybody wants a verdict earlier, it might be a difficult one.

No 'Immediate Crisis' Expected

TA281938 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 28 Feb 87

[Text] Shim'on Peres, vice prime minister and foreign minister, announced in last week's cabinet session, before his departure to Egypt, that unless he received a mandate to discuss the international conference issue with Mubarak he would resign immediately from his post. This has been learned by our political correspondent.

Last week Mr Peres briefed the cabinet ministers on the issues he intended to raise in Egypt, but no vote was taken, and the vice prime minister took this as the government's approval to discuss the international conference in Egypt, contrary to remarks by Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir, who claims Peres did not have a mandate. Our political correspondent Yig'al Goren reports from the studio:

In the last cabinet session, prior to his departure for Egypt, Shim'on Peres, vice prime minister and foreign minister briefed the ministers on the issues he intended to discuss in Egypt. This was done as a reaction to a comment made by Minister Arens that the issue of an international conference is under debate and there was no government agreement on it. Shim'on Peres said unless he received a mandate to continue the negotiations regarding an international conference he would resign immediately. He suggested taking a vote on the matter, but none of the ministers requested a vote and the session was adjourned. Peres regarded this as cabinet approval to discuss the issue of an international conference in Egypt, contrary to the remarks of Prime Minister Shamir who said Peres had no mandate to deal with this issue in the name of the government.

In tomorrow's cabinet session the political argument over this issue will apparently continue. The prime minister will brief the cabinet about his talks in the United States and Peres will brief it about his talks in Egypt.

This evening several ministers suggest the political issue will not reach a vote, because even in the Alignment it is not believed there is room for a political verdict before the electoral process is pushed forward, whereas the Likud at present has no reason to shorten the term of the government.

Now Egypt will brief Jordan and the Soviet Union on the Cairo talks and it is expected initial contacts regarding the make-up of a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation will begin.

An immediate crisis is not expected, but it certainly appears the debate over the continuation of the peace process will remain on our agenda.

Peres Attacks Likud Stance

TA282017 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2000 GMT 28 Feb 87

[Text] Mr Shim'on Peres said this evening he will continue to act for peace, and believes he has the mandate to do so. In a speech to the Labor Party Young Guard, Mr Peres said there are some people who say an international conference is not a popular cause, but he will not be scared off, despite the fact that he is against announcements regarding the dissolution of the government.

Our correspondent Razi Barqay reports Mr Peres attacked Likud politicians who claim he is nervous since he cannot stand being number two. Peres said he will not deal with psychology but rather with policy.

He also attacked the Likud's settlement policy, which according to him is meant to fulfill a hysterical impulse. This thing, however, is over, Peres added, because the settlement policy is coming at the expense of populating the Negev and the Galilee.

Shamir Hits Peres Aides

TA011840 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 1 Mar 87

[Text] The prime minister demands all members of the government act according to agreed upon lines and principles. In today's cabinet session Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir said that since half the government is against the idea of the international conference this idea must not be enforced. Mr Shamir said the conference would be a disaster for Israel. He added we must act according to what has been agreed upon, and if the components of the government cannot do so they must part.

Our political correspondent 'Oded Ben-'Ami adds that Mr Shamir criticized several Foreign Ministry officials who, according to him, are advancing the cause of the international conference abroad, contrary to the government's position. Our correspondent says the officials referred to are Dr Beilin and Dr Novik, Peres' aides. As for Mr Peres, Mr Shamir said he had not prevented him [Peres] from examining political options. Peres answered that the rotation did not extend to matters of policy, and that there is no alternative to direct negotiations initiated through an international conference. The government must decide whether it intends to stop this peace process, Mr Peres said.

Shamir on Summit, Coalition

TA011954 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew
1900 GMT 1 Mar 87

[Interview With Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir by political correspondent Yig'al Goren on 1 March; place not identified — videorecorded]

[Text] [Shamir] The national unity government was established mainly to solve the economic problems. We knew there were, and are bound to be, political differences between the sides. It is possible to maintain the government despite these differences if the two main partners behave according to the government's political guidelines and devote their best powers to the economic problems. For some reason Mr Peres is trying, especially over the last few months, to force on the government a policy not acceptable to the Likud. We cannot accept this.

[Goren] Sir, do you not think the government should resolve the international conference question so everyone in Israel and abroad will know once and for all what the Israeli Government position is?

[Shamir] Theoretically this is possible. However, this is not brought to vote because such a proposal does not exist. Nobody has offered us this except the Alignment. No country has decided about this yet, and there is no operative proposal, and therefore there is nothing to vote on and decide about. However, the government's principles do not permit any of its members ot act for an international conference that would decide on Israel's future and existence.

[Goren] Sir, in light of the present relations between you and the vice prime minister, is it preferable to preserve the government despite the differences of opinion, or is it preferable to hold early elections?

[Shamir] I am for the continued existence of the government because I believe our national interest requires this, especially the country's economic interest. Therefore, I think if we want to preserve the government, and I think this is what we should desire, it is necessary to stop advancing the cause of an international conference abroad and to concentrate on the economic policy, which is acceptable to all of us, and to stick to the basic guidelines in the political sphere.

[Goren] What will happen if Mr Peres continues the contacts on the issue of the international conference, as he has said he would do?

[Shamir] By so doing he would be undermining the basis of the national unity government.

Cabinet Holds 'Stormy' Session

TA011328 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1143 GMT 1 Mar 87

[Text] [Moderator Arye Golan] We will now go over to our political correspondent 'Oded Ben-'Ami in the broadcasting van outside the Prime Minister's Office in Jerusalem. One might say that, as expected, the cabinet held a stormy session. What did No one tell No two and what did No two tell No one?

[Ben-'Ami] You will hear that in a minute. Indeed, that is how the exchanges went, from No one to No two and vice versa. After the prime minister and the foreign minister briefed the cabinet on their respective political talks in Washington and in Egypt, the man who opened the debate — had he not done that, perhaps there would not have been a debate at all — was Deputy Prime Minister David Levi. He said: this cabinet is speaking with two tongues and paradoxical things are happening. Here I hear about the agreements Shim'on Peres brought back from his talks in Cairo and I want to know whether these are binding. In reply, Minister Moshe Shahal said: Indeed, there are some people here who speak with two tongues. He added cynically: There are those who speak about settlements beyond the basic guidelines. If a decision is called for, then let us make one and determine what is binding.

At this point, a verbal exchange ensued between the prime minister and the vice prime minister. Shamir to Shim'on Peres: Retract your remarks at once that those who object to an international conference are murdering peace. Peres to Shamir: You are the one who should retract his words that the international conference is a Russian proposal and is actually tantamount to a return to the 1967 borders. Shamir to Peres: If you are not talking about a return to the 1967 lines then this debate is worthwhile. Peres to Shamir: The problem is that of promoting peace. I intend to go ahead with this process. Those who want to stop me should put the issue to a vote. And, if the international conference is such a dangerous notion why is it that as far back as in 1977 Mr Begin proposed to hold an international conference with the participation of the Soviet Union and the United States? That is how the Cabinet session ended. The first minister to emerge was Shim'on Peres.

[Begin recording] [Ben-'Ami — picked up in mid-sentence] ...regarding the dialogue between yourself and the prime minister on the issue of an international conference?

[Peres] There is an argument between myself and the prime minister. In my opinion, the issue of an international conference should be put to a vote in the cabinet only after negotiations about it have been completed. Of course, one may submit an operational proposal to stop the negotiations; that would be an immediate operational proposal.

For the moment, we are going ahead with the peace process, meaning — and we said as much in Egypt — direct negotiations which would begin with an international opening. This has always been my position and I have not changed it. It is also in line with the government's basic guidelines; these guidelines say if the Jordanians put forth proposals about the peace process we will discuss them. The Jordanians have proposed direct negotiations should open by means of an international conference, so we must discuss this.

[Unidentified correspondent] At this point, would you say the government is operating as usual?

[Peres] We are talking about foreign policy. As you know, there is an argument on this subject. I have told you my position.

[Ben-'Ami] Politically speaking, do you think Israeli politics is experiencing a crisis?

[Peres] I am not dealing with political crises, I am dealing with the peace process. The government has its objectives and I will make a decision based on the implementation of these objectives. [end recording]

[Ben-'Ami] This was Vice Prime Minister Shim'on Peres who said he would go ahead with the process. He invited those who want to bring the matter to a vote to do so. However, for the time being there is no concrete proposal. Upon emerging from the cabinet session, one could easily discern the nuances separating the two blocs. One could see the Likud ministers believe there is a dispute, but regardless, there is room for keeping this government. This is what Minister Moshe Qatzav said:

[Begin Qatzav recording] I believe the cabinet session has once again shown both parties intend to keep the government despite their fundamental differences. The foreign minister made it abundantly clear he wants to go on promoting the cause of an international conference, while the prime minister objects to this notion. The foreign minister said he would put the issue to a vote in the cabinet when there is an operational proposal, but he made it clear at the moment no such proposal exists. It seems to me this formula enables the continuation of the current government. [end recording]

[Ben-'Ami] This is the position of the Likud ministers, as voiced by Minister Qatzav. The Alignment ministers are a little bit more determined, as reflected in Minister Ya'aqov Tzur's remarks.

[Begin Tzur recording] I think we are getting to the point where this government will not be able to ignore the differences in its midst, and it is the nature of a government such as this that it has to bypass certain situations. From what I heard at the cabinet session I feel a decision must be made on the issue itself. The cabinet can no longer ignore the differences in its midst because if it does so, not only will it begin resembling Noah's arc but will also be discrediting itself in the eyes of the world because of its unclear policies. Not that I am looking forward to decisions in the cabinet, but the way I see today's debate the cabinet will have to pass the test of setting out a policy and if it is unable to do so we may see the crisis gradually deepen. [end recording]

[Ben-'Ami] Be it as it may, we see that even if there were some sharp verbal exchanges during the meeting the situation at present remains unchanged. The vice prime minister believes the process must continue and is determined about it. The Likud ministers, headed by the prime minister, believe as long as there is no concrete and feasible proposal there is no room for putting the issue to a vote. In any event, until 29 March when the Herut convention is scheduled to take place, the cabinet will make no move leading to a crisis. Consequently, Israeli politics will continue as they have so far, at least until the end of the month

[Golan] Will Shamir and Peres have a tete-a-tete by the end of the month perhaps?

[Ben-'Ami] Maybe. In any event, those who expected such a meeting to take place this morning were disappointed as one was not held. The vice prime minister gave his briefing — and the prime minister was among the listeners — only in the middle of the cabinet session. Incidentally, that was not the first item on the cabinet's agenda. At the beginning of the session, Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin delivered a security report in the framework of the Ministerial Committee on Security Affairs.

'Senior' Source: Syrians Fail To Locate Hostages

TA271207 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1042 GMT 27 Feb 87

[Report by military correspondent Shmu'el Tal]

[Text] A senior military source said the Syrian forces entered Beirut, which include commando troops and armored units, have failed to locate the foreign hostages, who may have been transferred to the Al-Biqa' region even before the Syrians entered the Lebanese capital. According to this source, the Syrian decision to enter Beirut was made after brief consultations, but at the same time one may safely assume the Soviets were privy to that resolve, or that at in the least they were duly briefed on the matter.

The Syrians have not introduced surface-to-air missile batteries to Beirut, but there are antiaircraft weapons such as artillery and shoulder-held missiles there. The senior military source believes the Syrians might use this equipment against Air Force planes, if they believe our raids present a danger to their forces in Beirut and its environs.

The Syrians have shut down the offices of most of the organizations in Beirut, including Amal, Hizballah, and the Druze. They are now expected to increase pressure on the Palestinian refugee camps to broaden their influence there and contain 'Arafat.

From the moment the Syrians penetrated Beirut they became a major target. This might force them to introduce still larger forces into the city in the future, thereby embroiling them deeper in events there, the military source added.

It is likewise worth emphasizing here the units flowing into Beirut were taken from those Syrian units assigned to the Lebanese front. They left the Al-Biqa' positions they had previously held, leaving those Syrians remaining there vulnerable.

Government To Submit Iran Documents to U.S.

TA010652 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0600 GMT 01 Mar 87

[Text] Israel will submit two documents to the U.S. congressional committees investigating the Iran affair: One will detail the financial aspect of the arms deals; the other will be Jerusalem's version of the chain of events. Our political correspondent reports an agreement to this effect was reached during the prime minister's visit to Washington.

The first document to be submitted will deal with the financial side of the deals, and it will be completed within several weeks.

Only after the two documents are submitted will the committees present more detailed questions, the answers to which will probably be provided in writing by Cabinet Secretary Elyaqim Rubinstein.

Controversy Over Promotion of Pollard Control

Assigned to 'Senior Post'

TA011638 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 1 Mar 87

[Text] The promotion of Avi'am Sela', an Israeli Air Force officer who is said to have been Jonathan Pollard's control, has been held up. However, over the weekend Sela' was assigned to a senior post in the Air Force. This has been learned by our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal. The promotion was held up following a U.S. demand that Sela', whom the Americans want to try, would not be promoted and upgraded to a senior position. The Americans hinted to the defense establishment that if Sela' is promoted they will sever all contacts with him; he will not be allowed entry into the United States and will be denied the ties with the military attache and the U.S. Air Force. The Americans also hinted this affair will have a real effect on the entire Air Force.

A source close to the Pollard affair told our military correspondent the U.S. interference in Israel's internal affairs must be regarded gravely. Our military correspondent turned to the Defense Minister's Office for a reaction. He was told that Mr Rabin will not react to Sela' advancement.

Anger at U.S. 'Interference'

TA011856 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 1 Mar 87

[Text] Israeli Air Force Colonel Avi'am Sela' is being given a new senior posting. The officer's name has figured prominently in the Pollard spy case as the recruiter and sometime operator of the American intelligence employee, who is to be sentenced in Washington this week for passing on secrets to Israel. Colonel Avi'am Sela's latest career advancement comes despite American warnings that they will boycott the Israeli officer. More on the story from reporter Alan Ben-'Ami:

[Begin recording] American and Israeli officials are bluntly avoiding any comments tonight about Colonel Sela' or his new appointment. The Israel Army spokesman is only prepared to say that the issue is an IDF matter and the posting is classified, but to anyone looking into the affair it's very obviously a hot potato for all those connected to it. Avi'am Sela' is said to have recruited Jonathan Pollard when the two met while Sela' was in the United States on a study leave from the Air Force. Pollard, a civilian employee working with U.S. Navy Intelligence, has said he passed on secret information mainly concerning Arab countries at the request of Sela' and other Israelis. Pollard also claims his activities were known and approved at Israeli Government level. Israel has claimed the Pollard recruitment was a rogue operation that was stopped when it came to light. But American officials, civilian and military, have made it clear in various conversations that they are bitter and angry at the fact that Israelis who were involved with Pollard are still holding senior jobs in private or public service, even though Israeli authorities closed down the intelligence operation. The Americans were incensed to learn that Colonel Sela' took command of an Israel Air Force base after returning from the States, and already then began talking about boycotting the man. Just a few days ago the American charge d'affaires in Israel, in what I understand was a shortsharp meeting, delivered a blunt message to Defense Minister Rabin: If Avi'am Sela' should get any further advancement or higher rank, the U.S. would avoid any and all contact with him. In the light of the close military relations between the two countries such a decision could seriously affect other areas of contact between Israel and the U.S. Despite that blunt American position, it has been decided to go ahead as planned with the career advancement of the controversial colonel, although without giving him a promotion in rank.

What is seen here as an unwarranted American demand and an intervention in internal Israeli military affairs has sparked off anger and resentment in defense circles. But at the same time Israeli officials have still not been able to satisfy American officials who are angry and bitter at a serving Israeli military officer dabbling with intelligence activities in the United States. [end recording]

Shamir on U.S. Request

TA021119 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1100 GMT 2 Mar 87

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir believes the affair concerning Avi'am Sela' [Israeli Air Force officer involved in Pollard affair] does not represent U.S. intervention in Israel's affairs. In his opinion, this is a very special case, and the background of the U.S. request to prevent the promotion of Sela' must be understood. Replying to a question by an ITIM correspondent, Shamir said all those involved in the affair, including the officer himself, understand the U.S. request.

Morocco Denies Delegation To Visit Israel

TA271322 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 27 Feb 87

[Text] Morocco denies that an official agricultural delegation headed by the agriculture minister is due to arrive in Israel next week. A spokesman in the Agriculture Ministry in Rabat told correspondents that no delegation from his ministry is due to visit Israel. This morning it was reported that a Moroccan delegation, including agricultural experts and businessmen, was going to visit Israel and would tomorrow be the guest of Kibbutz Nahal 'Oz, home of the deputy agriculture minister. Agriculture Minister Arye Nehamkin refused to confirm or deny the report.

Moroccan Delegation of 'Businessmen' Arrive

TA011749 Jerusalem Domestic in Hebrew 1700 GMT 1 Mar 87

[Text] A delegation of four Moroccan businessmen arrived in Israel this afternoon. The delegation will remain here several days as guest of Deputy Agriculture Minister Avraham Katz-'Oz. The deputy minister told our correspondent Moshe Nestelbaum that he met the members of the delegation during his visit to Morocco. The four are owners of farms and private entrepreneurs who have nothing to do with political affairs. Agriculture Minister Arye Nehamkin told our correspondent that the members of the delegation are interested in making connections and purchasing equipment for Moroccan agriculture. Minister Nehamkin said that Morocco considers Israel to be a good source for purchasing irrigation equipment, pesticides, seeds, and saplings.

Our correspondent Meron Tzur reports that the Moroccan farmers are interested mainly in the areas of dairy farming, poultry farming, and bananas. They are guests of the Koor company and will visit farms and kibbutzim in Israel.

U.S. Plane Purchase Posed as Lavi 'Alternative'

TA011449 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 1 Mar 87 pp 1, 2

[Report by military correspondent Re'uven Pedatzur]

[Text] A real change may occur in the IDF's official stand concerning the future of the Lavi. The IDF is busy preparing an alternative to the Lavi. The intention is to submit this alternative to the defense minister as the firm IDF position. This position will stress that the Lavi project must be stopped and that the funds made available as a result should be channeled to other projects vital to the IDF that at present cannot be financed.

The new plan is also meant to solve the employment problems in the security-related factories currently involved with the Lavi project. The new projects, mostly connected with developing advanced technologies, will provide work for these factories.

Instead of the Lavi it will be proposed to purchase U.S. planes, apparently the F-16. This will be financed by the U.S. military grant currently given for the Lavi (the annual sum for this currently stands at $250 million). The large sums saved thereby will be devoted to other projects.

Chief of Staff Moshe Levi hinted in an appearance before the Israel-America Chamber of Commerce last weekend that the Lavi is not the best answer to the IDF's operational needs.

If the chief of staff indeed stands behind the alternative to the Lavi being worked out in the IDF this would constitute a significant change. Until now, the IDF has presented, through the chief of staff, an official position in favor of the Lavi project, despite the difficulties and negative ramifications for the IDF.

LIBYA

Officials Arrive in Sabha for Anniversary

Jallud Welcomes Algerian Group

LD012040 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1955 GMT 1 Mar 87

[Text] Al-Shararah al-'Ulah, Sabha, 1 Mar 87 (JANA) — Brother Mohamed Cherif Messaadia, official in charge of the Permanent Secretariat of the Algerian FLN Party, arrived in the town of Al-Shararah al-'Ulah, Sabha, this evening to take part in the popular festivities marking the 10th anniversary for the proclamation of the people's authority and the birth of the first jamahiriyah in history.

A grand welcome was held for Brother Mohamed Cherif Messaadia upon his arrival in Sabha International Airport; Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud was in the forefront of those welcoming him. The welcoming reception was also attended by a number of brother secretaries of the General People's Committee, secretaries of the congress, municipal people's committees, and a number of officers of the Libyan Arab Armed Forces.

Soviet Official Praises Ties

LD012111 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1900 GMT 1 Mar 87

[Excerpts] Sabha, 1 Mar (JANA) — Mr Yuriy Solovyev, CPSU Central Committee Politburo candidate member and Leningrad obkom first secretary, lauded the 10th anniversary of the declaration of people's authority and the birth of the first jamahiriyah in history.

In a statement to JANA on his arrival today at noon in Sabha heading a delegation to participate in these celebrations, he said the Soviet Union is following up with great interest the great successes achieved by the Libyan Arab people since the revolution. [passage omitted]

He said the imperialist hatred of your people's attitudes constitutes the real basis for the aggression against your country and the leader of your people's revolution on 15 April last year.

He stressed the Soviet Union has full confidence in the Libyan Arab people's ability to confront the imperialist schemes and conspiracies and the people's effective ability to continue to support all the progressive and patriotic forces in the world with the full solidarity of the group of socialist countries and all anti-imperialist forces.

Al-Qadhdhafi Arrives in Sabha 28 February

LD281430 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1330 GMT 28 Feb 87

[Excerpts] The masses of the Sabha Municipality met with the brother leader of the revolution this morning at a big jamahiri festival to express their pleasure and pride and to express their absolute commitment to the Green Jamahiri thought, the thought of the leader, Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, and to affirm their determination to march behind the leader in his defiance and steadfastness in the face of all U.S. imperialist designs and plots. [passage omitted]

On his arrival at Sabha International Airport today, the brother leader was met by large crowds of members of the popular congresses, the secretary and members of the Sabha Municipality popular committee, and a number of secretaries of other popular committees in the region.

The main celebrations will begin at 1500 outside the people's hall of Sabha, the town of the first spark, on the occasion of the silver jubilee [as heard], the 10th anniversary of the establishment of the people's authority, and of the birth of the first jamahiriyah in history.

Popular troupes and folk groups will present tableaus depicting the Libyan Arab people's joy at this great historic event in the life of mankind. The groups will march through the squares of the town of the first spark, at which the establishment of the people's authority was proclaimed. [passage omitted]

Further on Basic People's Congress Proceedings

Meetings Resumed 28 Feb

LD281514 Tripoli JANA in English 1436 GMT 28 Feb 87

[Text] Tripoli, Al Nowar 28, *Jamahiriyah News Agency* — The General People's Congress resumed its proceedings today. The congress's sub-committees reviewed the decisions of the Basic People's Congresses submitted to it for drafting.

The second and third sub-committees concluded their general review but the first sub-committee adjourned and resumes its meeting this evening to complete its task.

General Session Held

LD281913 Tripoli JANA in English 1823 GMT 28 Feb 87

[Text] Tripoli, Al Nowar 28, *Jamahiriyah News Agency* — The General People's Congress this evening held its general session in the city of Al-Sharara al-Ula-Sabha to review the preliminary drafting of the decisions of the Basic People's Congresses completed by the four committees set up by the congress for the purpose of making the last drafting.

New Committee Members Reported

LD012024 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1915 GMT 1 Mar 87

[Text] Sabha, 1 Mar 87, (JANA) — The General People's Congress elected this evening in its 12th ordinary session the General People's Committee as follows:

Brother 'Umar Mustafa al-Muntasir: Secretary of the General People's Committee.

Eng Zaydallah 'Aziz al-Salihi: Secretary of the People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison.

Brother Fawzi al-Shakshuki: Secretary of the General People's Committee for Public Service.

Eng Mubarak al-Shamikh: Secretary of the General People's Committee for Communications and Maritime Transport.

Brother Ahmad Muhammad Ibrahim: Secretary of the General People's Committee for Education and Scientific Research.

Dr (Farhat Sharnanah): Secretary of the General People's Committee for Economy.

Dr (Muhammad Lutfi Farhat): Secretary of the General People's Committee for Planning.

Dr (Ahmad Fathi ibn Shatwan): Secretary of the General People's Committee for Industry.

Dr (Mustafa Muhammad al-Zaydi): Secretary of the General People's Committee for Health.

Brother (Muhammad al-Madani al-Bukhari): Secretary of the General People's Committee for Treasury.

The General People's Congress also elected a committee for the administration of the General People's Committee for Information and Culture composed of the following:

Dr (Rajab Miftah Abu Dabbus): Secretary.

Brother ('Ali Milad Abu Jazyah): Assistant Secretary.

Sister (Fawziyyah Shalabi): Assistant Secretary.

Foreign Policy Resolutions Detailed

LD020100 Tripoli Television Service in Arabic 1035 GMT 1 Mar 87

[From the proceedings of the Libyan General People's Congress in Sabha; Libyan General People's Congress draft resolutions on Libya's foreign policy — live]

[Text] [Unidentified official] [camera shows official moving to podium to address congress on draft resolution] The report of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison and the Fraternal People's Bureaus:

The Basic People's Congresses discussed the report of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison and expressed their satisfaction, stressing the following:

1. The Basic People's Congresses stressed the necessity of reconsidering Libya's relations with Turkey in view of its attitude concerning the aggression against the Jamahiriyah as well as its attitude toward Palestinian people, placing on Turkey the historic responsibility for handing Libya over to Italian colonialism and demanding that Turkey pay compensation.

2. Seminars and conferences should be convened to clarify U.S. terrorism, to work to confront it, and to expand the friendship societies between the people of the Jamahiriyah and other peoples of the world since relations should be between peoples and not between governments.

3. Relations with the Arab countries, progressive states, and peace-loving peoples should be bolstered according to the policies of the Jamahiri society.

4. The Basic People's Congresses stressed that Italy should pay compensation and provide maps outlining the locations where mines were planted in the Jamahiriyah, and to place on Italy the responsibility for the aggression carried out by the U.S. imperialists from their bases in Italy and the threat posed by U.S. bases to the peaceful peoples in the Mediterranean basin.

5. The People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison and the fraternal people's bureau should be supported with revolutionary, committed, and capable elements; the post of the People's Committee for Cultural Affairs in the people's bureaus should maintained, and control over the fraternal people's bureaus and the offices attached to them should be tightened.

6. Our attitude toward other states should be defined according to the latter's attitude toward the U.S. aggression against the Jamahiriyah and other Arab issues.

7. The People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison should be entrusted with the task of working for the release of Libyan Arab prisoners abroad.

8. Efforts must be made to regain the loans that the Jamahiriyah gave to other countries, and the principle of bartering should be adopted in trying to regain such funds together with legal action.

9. Efforts should be initiated to abolish the right of veto at the UN Security Council.

10. The Basic People's Congresses saluted the fraternal and friendly states that stood by the Jamahiriyah in condemning the barbaric U.S. aggression, stressing the necessity of a comprehensive mobilization to confront the plans of imperialism and Zionism in the Arab homeland and Africa and throughout the world, as well as the necessity of forming alliances with progressive states.

11. Libyan external broadcasts must be strengthened with all material and moral capabilities.

12. The Basic People's Congresses recorded their dissatisfaction with the oil-producing Arab countries for not fulfilling their promises to participate in the great man-made river project.

13. The People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison should be entrusted with following up on the resolutions of the Basic People's Congresses to ascertain the fate of Libyan Arabs who have been missing since the beginning of the era of Italian facist colonialism.

14. Work must be done to halt the hemorrhage of the war between Iraq and Iran to stand against the common enemy of the

Arab and Islamic nations — Zionism, imperialism, and the crusaders.

15. More treaties should be concluded with progressive antiimperialist states for mutual defense.

16. The role of the Islamic Call Society for spreading the Islamic religion and confronting the crusader movement, whose target is the Arab nation and Islam, should be emphasized, and a real definition of Islam should be given as outlined by the Third Universal Theory by liberating the peoples from enslavement and exploitation.

17. The action taken by the king of Morocco in unilaterally abolishing the unionist treaty is viewed as illegal and is therefore rejected; further, all Arab states that violate the unionist treaties should be condemned.

18. The Basic People's Congresses condemned the criminal actions carried out by the Shi'ite Amal Movement in annihilating the Palestinian people and in forming alliances with the Zionist enemy and imperialism.

19. Within the framework of Arab solidarity and confronting the challenges facing the Arab nation, the Basic People's Congresses have decided to open a dialogue with Tunisia so that the latter can perform its pan-Arab role

[Unidentified chairman] Do you approve the draft? If so, please raise your cards. [camera shows delegates raising cards] Good, unanimous.

[Second unidentified official] [camera shows official moving to podium to address congress on draft resolution] Following up on the Unionist Steps With Syria, Algeria, Sudan and Yemen:

The Basic People's Congresses debated the report on following up on the unionist steps with Syria, Algeria, Sudan, and Yemen, and expressed their satisfaction. Out of their desire to stress that Arab unity is the fate and destiny of this nation, and that the nation cannot exist except with a return to a normal situation — one Arab state from the Ocean to the Gulf — and proceeding from the Libyan Arab people's pan-Arab commitment thanks to the great 1 September revolution, the Basic People's Congresses stressed the following:

1. A thorough study should be made of the reasons which have led to the failure of the previous unionist steps;

2. Attempts at Union with Arab countries and the creation of a unified Arab economic program to bring about integration should be continued;

3. The popularity ties among the masses of the Arab nation and the necessity of continuing the political and media campaigns through all channesl should be stressed;

4. Efforts should be made to kindle revolution in the Arab homeland in preparation for creating one Arab state.

[Chairman] Have you any observations? Do you approve? If so please raise your cards. [Camera shows delegates raising cards] Good, unanimous.

[Third unidentified official] [Camera shows official moving to podium to address congress on draft resolution] Support for International Liberation Movements and Pan-Arab and International Organizations Based on the Effectiveness of Their Actions:

The Basic People's Congresses debated the clause that was submitted on supporting international liberation movements based on the effectiveness of their actions, and expressed their complete satisfaction and made the following observations:

1. Support should be in accordance with capabilities, and should be referred to the Basic People's Congresses for approval;

2. Support should be conditional on the effectiveness and revolutionary credibility of the movement, and priority should be given to pan-Arab, African, and international organizations in that order;

3. The role of ideological support through the Third Universal Theory should be stressed since the latter is a theory of liberation and freedom, and to make support conditional upon the application of the theory;

4. The squandered efforts of some liberation movements must be united; and these movements must be united so they can attain their aims of liberation;

5. Total support should be given to the fraternal Chadian people in their legitimate struggle against the French and imperialist presence. This is because supporting the Chadian people is part of the defanse of the Jamahiriyah in view of the social and historic ties linking the two fraternal peoples, and to work for unity between the Chadian and Libyan Arab peoples.

[Chairman] I do not believe that there are any observations by any delegate. Therefore, we move on to the next draft resolution.

[Fourth unidentified official] [camera shows official moving to podium to address congress on draft resolution] The Nonaligned, Movement and Libyan Policies:

The Basic People's Congresses reviewed the report of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison regarding the Nonaligned Movement, and decided the following:

1. The contents of the speech made by the brother leader at the eighth nonaligned Summit in Harare — that the world is divided into two camps: a camp for liberation and an imperialist camp — should be emphasized and regarded as strategic and political constants of the Nonaligned Movement that will strengthen the progressive line of the movement;

2. The issue of extending the joint struggle by compelling the Nonaligned Movement member-states to adopt political and practical steps to stand by any member-state that may be subjected to aggression from imperialism should be clarified, and

material and moral support should be rendered to that member-state which is the target of aggression until it achieves victory;

3. Political contacts should be initiated in international forums to require the Nonaligned Movement member-states to stand in one rank with the liberation camp against the imperialist camp;

4. The People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison should be entrusted with the task of preparing, clarifying, and submitting a document to the ninth nonaligned summit reflecting the revolutionary policies the brother leader stressed in his speech at the Harare summit.

[Chairman] Show your cards. [camera shows delegates raising cards] Adopted.

[Fifth unidentified official] [Camera shows official moving to podium to address congress on draft resolution] The U.S. Presence in the Mediterranean and its Effect on Relations Between the Jamahiriyah and the Countries Bordering the Mediterranean, Particularly Italy:

The Basic People's Congresses debated the clause and approved the contents of the memorandum with emphasis on the following observations:

The concentrated presence of the forces of the United States and NATO, in particular in Italy, subjects the safety of the states bordering the Mediterranean to danger. The Basic People's Congresses stress the necessity of adopting a unified attitude by these states to remove the danger by bringing pressure to bear on the European states, especially Italy, to work for the expulsion of the military bases from its land, and to submit the issue to the United Nations, and to charge the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison to continue its efforts and to clearly state the Jamahiriyah's attitude vis-a-vis the U.S. bases and the deployment of nuclear missiles which threaten the states of the Mediterranean and Africa, especially the Jamahiriyah.

The Basic People's Congresses stress the efforts the Jamahiriyah has made and is still making to put an end to the danger of the U.S.-NATO presence, to deter it, and to make the U.S. bases targets wherever they may be [wa istihdaf al-Qawa'id al-Amrikiyah aynama wujidat] in self-defense and in retaliation for the continuous U.S. threats against the Jamahiriyah and the Arab homeland.

[Chairman] Do you approve? Please raise your cards. Let us move to the next draft resolution.

[Sixth unidentified official] [Camera shows official moving to podium to address congress on draft resolution] Confronting Zionist Infiltration Into the Arab Homeland:

The Basic People's Congresses discussed this clause, and stressed confronting the Zionist infiltration into the Arab homeland and made the following observation:

1. The Zionist infiltration into the Arab homeland first of all aims at annhilating the Arab presence and establishing a racist, expansionist state at the expense of the Arabs. The Basic People's Congresses therefore emphasized that action should be taken to halt the Zionist infiltration by every means, to confront the imperialist and Zionist plans, and to face the 10th crusader movement whose target is the Arab and Islamic presence in the world;

2. The guarantee for this nation to reassert its presence and to foil these plans lies in its unity, which safeguards its entity and creates the force capable of protecting it. The Basic People's Congresses stressed the role of the front for steadfastness and confrontation; the need to bolster the Palestinian revolution so it will be capable of confrontation; the need to bolster the pan-Arab command of the revolutionary forces so it shoulders its responsibilities to the Arab nation; and the need to topple the shameful capitulationist agreements, stressing that there should be no peace, no reconciliation with or recognition of the Zionist enemy, and that the Arab regimes that follow a submissive policy should be exposed;

3. To highlight the combat role of the pan-Arab revolutionary forces, to set up a unified military command, and to support Syria in confronting the Zionist enemy;

4. To stress the firm and principled stands of the Jamahiriyah in confronting the Zionist infiltration and to support the Palestinian people and to render unlimited aid to it in its heroic armed struggle for regaining its homeland, and to condemn the regimes that played host to the symbols of the Zionist gang, and to incite the living forces to topple these regimes.

[Chairman] Do you approve? Do you have observations? Those who approve please raise your cards. [camera shows delegates raising cards] Approved. Let us proceed.

[Seventh unidentified official] [Camera shows official moving toward podium to address congress on draft resolution] The Zionist Nuclear Armament:

The Basic People's Congresses debated the clause on confronting the Zionist nuclear armament. They, while expressing their satsifaction with the measures taken by the Great Jamahiriyah in confronting the Zionist nuclear armament, and while drawing atatention to the danger of the Zionist nuclear armament against the Arab homeland and the Islamic world, have approved the contents of othe memorandum with the following observations:

1. They call for exposing this type of armament in the media and at the political level in all forums and international conferences, and to charge the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison with the task of submitting this matter at the Arab, Islamic, African, and international levels;

2. To work on confronting the Zionist enemy's possession of nuclear weapons at the Arab level, and to deal with the friendly states within this framework through finding a deterrent for this armament;

3. To work for the destruction of the Zionist nuclear reactor because it constitutes a danger to Arab nation and the Islamic world;

4. To condemn the states that have enabled the Zionist enemy to obtain this weapon, or enabling it to develop it, and to reconsider relations with these states and to charge them with the responsibility for its consequences;

5. To extend an invitation to Arab scientists to expand their expertise in this field, to encourage Arab elements living abroad to return to the homeland, and to send Libyan Arabs to study this subject abroad.

6. To condemn the strategic Zionist-U.S. alliance, including the Zionist enemy's participation in the Star War program.

[Chairman] Do you approve? Let us proceed. I believe that you approve. Thank you. Let us go on.

[Eighth unidentified official] [camera shows official moving toward podium to address congress on draft resolution] To Define Our Attitude Toward Other States According to the Latter's Attitude Toward the U.S.-NATO Aggression Against Great Jamahiriyah:

The Basic People's Congresses acquainted themselves with the memorandum of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison concerning defining our attitude toward these states' attitude vis-a-vis the U.S.-NATO aggression, and decided the following:

1. The Basic People's Congresses saluted the states that supported the Great Jamahiriyah and condemned the U.S.-NATO aggression, and stressed the necessity of consolidating relations with these states and supporting them and giving them priority in contacts, and to work for the adoption of unionist steps with the Arab states that stood by the Jamahiriyah during the aggression;

2. To denounce the attitude of the states that opposed the condemnation of the aggression, and to reconsider relations with them and to consider the states from which the aggression was launched as hostile states;

3. To charge the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison with contacting the countries that abstained from voting in favor of the condemnation resolution [at the UN Security Council] and those who were absent in order to ascertain their attitude regarding this aggression so that our attitude toward them can be defined in this light;

4. To work for the abolishment of the veto and the transfer of the headquarters of the United Nations from New York to a neutral site;

5. To follow up the international resolutions that condemned the aggression and to demand compensation for the aggression;

6. To contact the popular organizations in the states whose governments supported the aggression and incite these organizations to bring pressure to bear on their governments to change their stances;

7. To demand from the socialist camp, headed by the Soviet Union, and the Nonaligned Movement member-states to adopt practical attitudes vis-a-vis the aggression and the U.S.-NATO threat and the states supporting the aggression and threat;

8. To regard the international resolutions that condemned the U.S.-NATO aggression against the Jamahiriyah as a victory for the Jamahiriyah and as support for its courageous international stances;

9. To lay down a political and information program exposing the U.S.-NATO aggression and the practices of the U.S. Administration and reaffirming our legitimate rights;

10. To refer the political steps and activities that the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison takes within this framework to the Basic People's Congresses in their next session.

[Chairman] Do you approve of this draft? I mean with regard to defining our attitude vis-a-vis the states according to the latter's attitude toward the U.S.-NATO aggression? Good!

[Ninth unidentified official] [camera shows official moving toward podium on draft resolution] The Basic People's Congresses discussed the current situation in Chad and decided:

To confront the French-U.S.-crusading aggression, with the following observations:

1. The security of Chad is part of the security of the Jamahiriyah, and that any aggression against the Chadian people is considered to be aggression against the Libyan Arab people. It is necessary to render unlimited material and moral aid to the Chadian people;

2. The French-U.S. flagrant interference in African affairs is regarded as a return of the colonization of people, and their humilation and subjugation — a matter that contradicts the simplest of human rights, and that the African problems should be solved within an African framework;

3. To condemn the French-U.S. interference in Chad and to use all capabilities to confront this interference, with the necessity of making extensive moves in the political and media spheres — at all levels;

4. The necessity of working for the implementation of the joint defense agreements with the Chadian people and to stress implementation of these agreements;

5. The Habre regime in Ndjamena is a lackey regime that has enabled the return of colonialism to the continent once again, hence it constitutes a danger not only to Chad but also to the other states of the continent as a whole, and therefore its toppling has become a necessity imposed by the security and peace of the African Continent.

[Chairman] Do you approve of this draft? Please raise your cards. [camera shows delegates raising cards] Thank you.

[Tenth unidentified official] [camera shows official moving toward podium to address the congress on draft resolution] The Ratification of Treaties and Agreements Between the Great Jamahiriyah and the Fraternal and Friendly States for 1987:

The Basic People's Congresses have ratified the treaties and agreements concluded between the Great Jamahiriyah and the fraternal and friendly states during 1986.

This concludes the resolutions that have been adopted in the field of foreign policy.

[Chairman] Do you approve? Are there any observations? Please raise your cards because the matter concerns treaties and agreements. Thank you.

Foreign Liaison Shortcomings Aired

LD012344 Tripoli Television Service in Arabic 1205 GMT 1 Mar 87

[From the proceedings of the General People's Congress in Sabha; from the "Reports and Remarks of the Accountability Bureau on the General People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison" — live]

[Text] [Unidentified speaker] The third element of the accountability as compiled by the secretariat of the General People's Congress and also some of the revolutionary remarks concerning some of the General People's Committee — as I had previously stated, these remarks necessitated the carrying out of written investigations in some cases which I will review briefly in a way that will not harm security, taking the committees one by one.

First, and the most important of these committees, and the most criticized is that of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison. Here are the brief remarks:

1. — There has been a failure to implement legislation regulating the Jamahiri work in the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison; namely, the law on the people's committees and the regulations governing them, which regulate their ordinary and extraordinary meetings, the method of adoption of resolutions and their implementation. The committee has failed to meet even once in 1986 to work out the implementation of the resolutions of the Basic People's Congress. The bureau has further failed to draw up a clear strategy based on a meeting of the committee;

2. — There has been a domination of individualist spirit on the work of the committee through the monopolistic attitude of its secretary and the submission of members of the committee to him, as well as their failure to curb his domination;

3. — There has been a multiplicity of personal differences among committee members which has reflected negatively on its work. As an example of this we cite the fact that personal differences have led to the Jamahiriyah's absence from an important ministerial conference which was of utmost importance. These personal differences led some of the members to allow their colleagues to commit errors so that they were exposed without consideration for public interest. This reflects an unreasonable degree of irresponsibility;

4. — There has been a failure to follow in a careful scientific manner the work of the people's bureaus abroad. There has also been disregard for the views, proposals, and traditions of these bureaus;

5. — There has been a failure to coordinate with the other instruments of popular action, which is useful for the operation of the bureau in addition to being an objective necessity for relations among peoples;

6. — There has been a lack of spirit of initiative in dealing with political problems and in tackling the policies of the hostile states as well as reliance on intimations to act. This rendered the bureau's work as reaction rather than action, and resulted in the adoption of precautionary measures;

7. — There has been the actual existence of the preliminaries of political action opposed to the lines of the historic leadership, the Basic People's Congresses and their resolutions for the concentration of work as well as cooperation with hostile arenas and almost complete disregard for political action in the Third World, although this latter constitutes the Jamahiriyah's principal vital sphere of action. This has manifested itself in various manners, the most important being the following:

a) The curtailment of the presence of the people's bureaus in the Third World countries, or the decrease of their members in a way that reduces their effectiveness;

b) Failure to direct economic cooperation toward serving the political cooperation between the Jamahiriyah and the friendly countries, despite leadership guidelines and the resolutions of the people's congresses. An example of this can be found in the resolution adopted by the Basic People's Congresses during their last session. It provided for the development of relations with the European countries that refused to submit to U.S. pressure, and the bureau's complete disregard for this;

8. — There has been a failure to organize, develop, or restructure the administration of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison in a manner that would make this administration efficient in the field of international relations;

9. — There has been a failure to precisely understand the dimensions of political expressions, a matter that could lead to serious consequences, as clearly evident by the report submitted by the bureau to the Basic People's Congresses. We cannot mention these expressions here because they could be useful to hostile powers.

These are the remarks in general. Naturally, there are more detailed remarks possessed by the secretariat of the General People's Congress and also investigations, which we will review giving at least their main features. These remarks have been deduced from numerous meetings with the People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison. One of these reports consists of 14 pages, and covers the most important problems pertaining to the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison and the instructions issued on the basis of this report. Unfortunately, I regret to say it did not (?refer) to the problems of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison. [Words indistinct] also the absence of some members, a matter which made it impossible on many occasions to take measures of an urgent nature; as you know, international events are urgent and happen in rapid succession. There should be a follow up on such events and there should be continuity day and night. It is clear then that failure to follow up events in the international arena, especially with regard to the Arab arena and the Jamahiriyah, the absence of a number of members of the committee is quite clear, and their excuses sometimes [words indistinct]. The question of a failure to take the initiative is also clear with regard to international events. The lack of tight control over the fraternal and people's bureaus is quite evident and clear. The people's action is also neglected and unrecognized as it should be;

[Words indistinct] on 20 November 1986 regarding the shortcomings of the bureau in confronting the visit of the president of the Zionist entity to Australia, New Zealand, Fiji, Singapore, and the Philippines: The events can be summed up in the fact that the president of the Zionist entity visited these states, and prior to his visits he stated that he would be facing increasing activities by the Great Jamahiriyah in this arena. He was greatly disturbed when he heard about such activities. The People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison definitely did not confront these visits with any measures until after the issuance of instructions to it from the General People's Committee. Naturally, it is clear that these visits, according to the statement made by the president of the Zionist entity, were going to face increasing activities by the Jamahiriyah. Add to this the fact that the Zionist entity is the number one enemy of the Jamahiriyah and the Arab nation. From the investigations it became clear that many signals were received by the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison and from one of our People's Bureaus more than a month prior to the visit, but the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison did not take any but simple measures: to ask the secretaries of the bureaus in these countries to protest the visits or to summon the ambassadors of these countries and inform them of the Jamahiriyah's dissatisfaction with these visits.

The People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison should have taken a series of measures. Some of the measures were proposed by some People's Committee members, but definitely these did not see the light of day. According to the investigation that was carried out, the secretary of the People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison said he personally shouldered the responsibility for negligence in this regard. He said he did not take the initiative until after he was contacted by the General People's Committee. To rectify this [words indistinct], the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison — that means all those in the bureau.

At any rate this is a brief consideration of the issue, and the secretary and members of the committee who attended the investigation — Kamil Hasan al-Maqhur [as heard], Ahmad Shihati, Abu Sha'rayah al-Farkash, Fattah Madhi, 'Umar al-Hamudah, [name indistinct] Ghidan, Sayyid Hafyanah — admitted the malfunction in the work of the bureau in this regard. Naturally I cannot read the report which runs 10 pages. The results of the investigation — which was carried out on 17 November 1986 with the People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison and the Protocol Department regarding the shortcomings of the committee and the department in attending important meetings held by foreign ministers with the brother leader of the revolution, this is in addition to the (shameful) mismanagement by the Department of Protocol — is that the Department of Protocol did not carry out its function. It did not provide an interpreter when a foreign guest was meeting the brother leader. The committee's attention was drawn to this clear negligence, and the necessity of punishing those responsible in the Protocol Department was stressed, as was the need to avoid this in the future.

There is also a report on the nonparticipation of the brother secretary of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison in the celebrations of a friendly state — a mission on which he was sent. The incidents of this issue can be summed up as follows: The brother secretary of the bureau was sent to attend the celebrations of a friendly state which he should have made every effort to attend. But he failed, it appears for reasons concerning transportation! The conclusion of our follow-up study of this matter may be that there was some negligence by the secretary of the bureau to attend — a matter which may result in some great political consequences. The nonparticipations...

[Chairman, interrupting amid shouts from the floor] These should be read out. All right. [words indistinct]

[Unidentified speaker] Naturally, lastly there is a report on the Jamahiriyah's nonparticipation in a big ministerial meeting as a result of personal sensitivities among the members of the People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison. A decision was issued by the People's Committee on the formation of a delegation under the chairmanship of the brother secretary of the bureau — I believe he is here — and he remarked on the said decision by entrusting a member of the People's Committee with replacing him. The said committee member, in a memorandum to the committee, apologized for being unable to participate in the delegation for reasons he termed as objective.

The executive of the General People's Congress informed the said member again of the fact that he has to be in the delegation, but the member submitted a memorandum once again to the General People's Committee pointing out the futility of his participation. The secretary left for another country. The People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison cabled a member who was at the same place to attend, but he cabled back his apologies. In short, the People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison at the committee level did not attend these vital general meetings except very late!

The People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison also committed a great administrative blunder by referring and documenting papers that should not have been documented. The Bureau, together with the Information secretariat, [shouts from the floor interrupting speaker]. The People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison and the Information Secretariat should account for the publication of maps that should not have been published. [shouts from the floor] The People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison and Information secretariat did not take any political initiative regarding the events in Chad. This is briefly a summary of the observations of the General

People's secretariat and some of the observations of the revolutionary committees regarding the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison.

Media Shortcomings Detailed

LD020034 Tripoli Television Service in Arabic
1225 GMT 1 Mar 87

[From the proceedings of the General People's congress in Sabha; remarks on the performance of the General People's Committee for Information and Culture — live]

[Text] [Chairman] Let us now come to the General People's Committee for Information and Culture. Naturally, these are important remarks and should be heard. [shouts from the floor].

[Unidentified speaker] The General People's Committee for Information and Culture: Aside from the observations made by the basic people's congresses, it committed many harmful and some time fatal mistakes, a matter that sometimes necessiated the holding of inquiries. These included an investigation with the secretary of the *Jamahiriyah News Agency* regarding the misuse of the term "the brother leader of the revolution on one specific occasion. From the investigation it was revealed that the General People's Committee for Information and Culture did not alay down specific criteria in selecting the members of the media delegations accompanying the brother leader of the revolution, It did not specify criteria in selecting the reports that it should transmit to the outside world as it did not distinguish between what should be transmitted locally and what should be transmitted externally. In the incident in which we referred to the misuse of the phrase the brother leader of the revolution very serious political and media ramifications resulted. The General People's Committee for Information and Culture and its radio apparatus should be censured for the continuous Arabic grammatical mistakes committed and for failure in coordination. Yes, these are very important issues. These are very significant revolutionary observations. The nonmention of reports concerning demonstrations staged by a fraternal people [not further identified] in reply to a visit by a president [not further identified] — such reports should not have been deliberately overlooked by the media. They were not mentioned. The maps published were incorrect and imprecise. The failure to transmit reports and pictures of international events whould not have been concealed. The occasional dropping of phrases or changing such phrases in cables from the leader of the revolution or in his official statements should not occur. For example, the word barbaric was changed to the word savage in the cable sent by the leader to the Jordanian women's organizations — this was changed by the media.

The media did not enable the journalists of the Egyptian opposition to enter the Great Jamahiriyah. Ignorant people were charged with preparing the text of a play that was passed by the General People's Committee for Information and Culture. Libyan radio is inaudible in many areas while other radios are audible. This subject was submitted by the general controller as a result of the investigation. This is a revolutionary observation of great importance. Failure in the application of [word indistinct].

The secretary of the General People's Committee for Information and Culture was charged with making the media a media for the masses and with training the handicapped and retired people as announcers, to make them replace existing announcers to send the latter to the production sector. This policy has failed. The media did not follow up and did not reply to the visit of the president of the Zionist entity to the states we mentioned when reviewing the dossier of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison. The General People's Committee for Information and Culture and the *Jamahiriyah News Agency* and its reporters misused the words of the leader of the revolution. An investigation was launched into this matter and is still going on. [shouts from the floor]

[Chairman] Continue.

[Unidentified speaker] The General People's Committee for Information and Culture and some of its departments did not deal with the statements made by the French foreign minister and the rabid dog [President Reagan] regarding the economic blockade on the Jamahiriyah. They did not deal with them; the committee does not exploit everything issued by official political figures in certain states. The interview given by the brother leader of the revolution with *'Al-Kifah Al-Arabi'*, which was very important, was not published domestically. The media failed to report the speech made by the president of a fraternal state at an international conference [not further identified]. Aside from the fact that the speech was important, it was also significant in form. But the media was unaware of this. The media did not deal as it should have with the meeting between Saddam Husayn of Iraq and Habre of Chad. The media did not clarify the significance behind that meeting in replying to the theories propogated by the Saddam regime.

It has been proved that the media does not even follow the hostile radio in Ndjamena. The media failed to monitor the report from Ndjamena except from what *Le Monde* published, for example, during the past 2 weeks, despite the fact that among the first duties of the information committee is to listen to what foreign radios, especially hostile radios, broadcast. There is also the question of the radio station [not further identified] that does not transmit due to malfunction. This constitutes a big crime for which the information committee and other people's committees are responsible. This is a short summary of the observations. From the organizational aspects, the Information secretariat held five meetings last year in accordance with the laws and statutes of the people's committees.

Al-Salihi Comments on Budget

LD020335 Tripoli Television Service in Arabic
1623 GMT 1 Mar 87

[Address by General People's Committee Secretary Zaydallah 'Aziz al-Salihi to afternoon session of General People's Congress in Tripoli — live]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Prayers and peace be upon the prophet of God. If you permit me I will speak — I have been charged to do so by my colleagues, the members of the General People's Committee, with the purpose of giving an explanation. I am going to confine myself to examples, because I will not be able to respond to all the comments made. I am fully aware that what is handed down by the Basic People's Congresses [BPC's] are neither points of view nor opinions to be discussed, but decisions and rulings. Therefore, I believe that it is not up to me to correct what has been decided by many a congress — whether it be accusations of negligence, inability to implement, demands to ask questions, or a judgment over an attempt at a deviation from a policy that has been laid down or over a decision that has been made.

I want to put this across clearly. It is to our credit that we have made efforts generously; we have tried hard. This is the result of our action. We have tried, we have worked very hard; we have sought the correct path, and we are not claiming we have not made mistakes and shortcomings. [passage omitted]

Conditions have not been easy, and when we saw that they reached the point of being so difficult that it became impossible to carry out the resolutions of the congresses, we told you the truth in a memorandum on the financial situation submitted at the first session of the BPC's meetings last year. In them, we clarified the facts as we saw them and explained what was expected. We have also said what we saw as a remedy to them. We, on the other hand, knew that the suggestions and measures proposed would not please many people. We believed and we still believe that there was no alternative except to either extend the hand or to surrender the rein [as heard]; and that confrontation required sacrifice; and the simplest sacrifice is material sacrifice, especially if the latter is temporary.

In the memo I mentioned, which we submitted to the BPC's, we said the following: As a result of these circumstances — and we mean the circumstances resulting from the collapse of oil prices — incomes necessary for the financing of the budgets adopted by the BPC's for 1986 fell by almost 40 percent. This resulted in real difficulties in facing up to the requirements of various budget expenditures. This — and I further quote — requires a quick tackling that would guarantee regularity on management action. We also said clearly that if such circumstances were not tackled, there would be a fear of a complete paralysis.

I believe that there is nothing clearer than this. The expectations we mentioned in that memorandum have proved to be correct. [passage omitted]

There have been comments on the development plan. In this respect, I will explain that:

— First: There has been no permission given for any contracts or renewal of contracts by the current General People's Committee, except after the issue of the resolution of the BPC's at their first ordinary meeting for 1986, in which they discussed the financial paper and defined in it the administration's stance in light of the collapse of oil prices;

— Second: After its reshuffle and during the period ending on 31 December, the auditing period, the General People's Committee issued 30 decisions concerning contracts on the development plan. [passage omitted]

As far as [concerns] the goods expenditure budget that has been highlighted during the comments made regarding the Secretariat for Economy, I want to say that the BPC's decided the following during the first session in 1986:

— Confining the goods expenditure budget for 1986 on necessary goods like foodstuffs, milk, medicine, and production requirements. In implementation of this decision, allowances were made for importing foodstuffs exceeding 70 million dinars. [passage omitted]

All through the year, there have been complaints about shortages of goods, but I do not believe that we should always look for causes in the transfer of funds abroad. [passage omitted]

Concerning some financial matters, it has been said that the General People's Committee for the Treasury delayed the provision of assets to municipalities and companies; that it delayed the payment of salaries; that it did not pay its allocation for the Social Security Fund. Well, all this is true, and I believe that we did not explain this to the BPC's in time, and once again I warn that what happened last year will further deteriorate this year if we — all of us — do not face up to the situation with a spirit of responsibility.

Concerning the payment of the public debt, the treasury had done much despite the regrettably small amount of income. [passage omitted]

If it is true — and I say, if it is true — that there was no interest in textiles; that the processing of sardines disappeared; that there was no emphasis on the construction of plants where raw materials are available locally; that there is no program to improve the level of modern technical industries; that education results leave much to be desired; that schools are abandoned; that the implementation of the new education structure is stumbling; that the medical program has not been carried out; that there were no hospitals in rural areas — if all this is really true, then I would not believe you are expecting them [General People's Committee members] to correct this in the course of a few months. [passage omitted]

Regarding the stopping of holiday money payments, this was not decided on by the General People's Committee for Civil Service. Payments have indeed been postponed, and we justified this by saying: How can we be asked to pay holiday money when we are unable to pay work wages. [passage omitted]

Regarding the issue of public debt, I believe that what was achieved in 1986 deserves praise for the brothers in the General People's Committee for the Treasury. If we review the development of public debt in the last 4 years, we find that in 1984 it increased by 644 million dinars, at a rate of 21 percent; in 1985 it increased by 364 million dinars, a rate of 10 percent; and in 1986 it really increased by no more than 271 million, a rate of 6 percent, despite the fact that figures given by the Libyan Bank said the increase was 500 million. There is no dispute between the two figures, since the difference is due to the fact that 230 million have been added, which were a treasury debt in 1985. They have been added to the public debt according to Law No 5-1985. [passage omitted]

JANA Denies Egypt-Libya Mediation Report

LD012107 Tripoli JANA in English 1847 GMT 1 Mar 87

[Text] Tripoli, al-Marikh 1, *Jamahiriyah News Agency* — The editor of Arab affairs in JANA refuted a report by *Al-Safir* newspaper which claimed that, according to a source it described as a reliable, Sudan was mediating between Egypt and Libya and that the Sudanese mediator is arranging for a meeting that will pave the way for the return of Egypt to Arab fold.

The editor said the report was mere imagination, for there is no mediation with a party that recognized the Zionist enemy and no contacts with Husni al-Barek who turned Egypt into a colony run by the Zionists and Americans, and also no mediation with Egypt and its return to the Arab fold while the political regime is the same. And that those who talk of mediation attempt to ignore the fact that the conflict is not between Libya and Egypt but between Egypt and the Arab nation through Arab summit decisions ruling for the boycott of Egypt.

Algerian Chad Mediation Blocked; Clash Expected

LD281943 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1710 GMT 28 Feb 87

[By Dejan Lukic]

[Text] Tripoli, February 28 (TANJUG) — An attempt at diplomatic mediation to prevent the outbreak of a new round of military conflicts in Chad has yielded poor results and the indications are that another clash is about to break out in northern Chad.

The Algerian initiative, which was given some chance of succeeding because of Algeria's favourable position regarding Ndjamena and Tripoli, has lost momentum following Algerian emissary Taleb Ibrahimi's visit to Libya. After his recent meeting with Habre in Ndjamena, Ibrahimi paid a lighting visit to Libya and met with Al-Qadhdhafi in the Gulf of Sidra. The visit, however, was not reported by the Libyan media. Algeria's stand on the withdrawal of all foreign troops from Chad did not suit the Libyans, as revealed in well-informed circles.

Al-Qadhdhafi does not accept even the idea of an equal Libyan-French presence in Chad, even if it comes from the Jamahiriyah's closest Arab friend.

If the sources are to be believed, Ibrahimi waited to be received by Al-Qadhdhafi several hours longer than he expected. Contrary to his habit of saying what he thinks, Al-Qadhdhafi quickly brought the discussion to an end, promising to send a Libyan delegation to Algeria to consider the proposals. This was, to all those familiar with the language and diplomatic finesse here, a clear indication that the Algerian mission had failed.

When policy fails, arms often take over. It is now claimed in Ndjamena that the Libyans are preparing a large-scale campaign to restore Fada's strategic position. Around 300 Libyan tanks and many troops are claimed to be centered in the direction of Fada, and all airports in northern Chad and southern Libya are on full alert.

Libya is keeping quiet so far, but there are indirect signs that preparations for an offensive are underway. Col. al-Qadhdhafi is personally preoccupied with the idea of the necessity to capture Fada and re-establish the former situation along the 16th Parallel well-informed sources in Libya claim. Top-level Libyan military circles maintain that the quantity of arms and French troops constantly arriving in Chad surpass by far "the current balance of the internal forces in Chad".

Libya, therefore, as the Revolutionary Committee organ *Jamahiriyah* announced today, is ready for the second round, after the first in 1982 when Goukouni Oueddei drove Habre all the way to the Sudanese border with the help of Libyan forces. The *Jamahiriyah* reports that the Libyans are able to cross thousands of kilometers again, but "this time we will not stop until we fill the parrots' beaks with sand".

ETHIOPIA

Mengistu Receives Sudanese Foreign Minister

EA271859 Addis Ababa in Amharic to Neighboring Countries 1600 GMT 27 Feb 87

[Text] Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam, WPE Central Committee secretary general, PMAC chairman, and commander in chief of the Revolutionary Armed Forces, met with Al-Sharif Zayn al-'Abidin al-Hindi, Sudanese deputy prime minister and foreign minister, during a ceremony at the Grand Palace this afternoon.

Our comrade revolutionary leader and Al-Hindi discussed relations between revolutionary Ethiopia and Sudan. Present on the occasion were Comrade Berhanu Bayeh, WPE Central Committee Politburo member and foreign minister, and 'Uthman Adam, Sudanese ambassador to revolutionary Ethiopia.

DPRK Foreign Trade Minister Meets With Mengistu

EA272339 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 27 Feb 87

[Text] Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam, WPE Central Committee secretary general, PMAC chairman, and commander in chief of the revolutionary Armed Forces, has met and held discussions with Comrade Choe Chong-kun, member of the Workers Party of Korea [WPK] Central Committee and foreign trade minister. Here is a telephone report by Asefa Seyoum, *Ethiopian News Agency* correspondent, from the Grand Palace.

[Asefa] During the ceremony held at the comrade secretary general's special office at the Grand Palace, the comrade DPRK foreign trade minister briefed our comrade revolutionary leader on his week's working visit, the discussions held during the working tour, and agreements subsequently concluded. In his briefing, the comrade minister noted that the development activities being carried out in the rural areas that he observed showed that the broad masses of Ethiopia, wisely led by Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam, were fighting to expedite the country's development and overcome backwardness. He added that the people of the DPRK would always support the Ethiopian people to help them implement Ethiopia's just plans.

For his part, the comrade secretary general noted that the aid provided by the DPRK to supplement efforts in agriculture, industry, mining, and water resources and the efforts being made by the comrades who came here to help us were substantial, adding that Ethiopians would learn much from their Korean comrades, who possess long-term struggle experience.

Present on the occasion were Comrade Ashagre Yigletu, WPE Central Committee member and secretary; Comrade Wollie Chekol, WPE Central Committee member and foreign trade minister; and Comrade Sok Tae-uk, DPRK ambassador to revolutionary Ethiopia.

Signs Trade Protocol, Departs

EA281607 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1800 GMT 27 Feb 87

[Text] Comrade Choe Chong-kun said the nature of the economic cooperation and relations between revolutionary Ethiopia and the DPRK lend favorable scope for the expansion and strengthening of trade. This is what Comrade Choe Chong-kun, Workers Party of Korea [WPK] Central Committee member and foreign trade minister, said at Bole International Airport before leaving for Pyongyang today.

Earlier he held discussions with senior officials on economic relations between the two countries and signed a trade protocol. He noted that despite the two countries being engaged in extensive cooperation projects, trade is not so extensive. He said he hoped that under the trade protocol signed during his visit the two countries would engage in trade exchanges according to their abilities. The comrade minister said he would do everything possible to further enhance the the two countries' cooperation projects.

The delegation was seen off at Bole International Airport by Comrade Wollie Chekol, WPE Central Committee member and foreign trade minister.

Foreign Minister Berhanu Receives CSSR Official

EA281602 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1800 GMT 27 Feb 87

[Text] Comrade Bayeh Berhanu, WPE Central Committee Politburo member and foreign minister, met and held discussions with visiting CSSR Deputy Foreign Minister Dusan Ulcak [title as received] at his office today. Comrade Berhanu briefed Comrade Ulcak on revolutionary Ethiopia's past and present efforts to improve the standard of living of the Ethiopian broad masses by way of the chosen development path. Comrade Berhanu went on to say that although international imperialism and reactionary forces around us have hatched various plots against our development process, a great struggle has been waged to contain them and to reach our goals. He thanked the CSSR for the aid it has given revolutionary Ethiopia in various fields.

Speaking during the ceremony, Comrade Ulcak said the CSSR is willing to enter into protocols in the cultural, medical, and sports fields in addition to those already in existence. He went on to say that revolutionary Ethiopia is one of his country's first allies in Africa and that his country will do everything possible to give revolutionary Ethiopia necessary support, particularly in the economic sector.

165 Soldiers Reportedly Killed in Attack 23 Feb

JN012103 Khartoum SUNA in English 1715 GMT 1 Mar 87

[Text] Khartoum, 1 Mar (SUNA) — Ethiopian People's Democratic Forces (EPDM) launched on last Feb. 23 an attack on the garrison of Ibnat, south east the capital of Gonder.

According to a military communique issued by EPDM office here today, the loss that has been incurred on the Ethiopian troops was 165 soldiers killed and 19 taken prisoners, among them Second Lieutenant Iyob Gebre Mariam.

EPDM's forces captured after the attack 85 Kalashnikovs, 10 rocket propelling [as received], 400 hand grenades, 12 pistols, 8 binoculars, and 4 communication radio. They also destroyed during the attack 3 military trucks, 1 ZU-23 anti-aircraft gun and a store full of ammunition, the military communique said.

EPLF Declares 'Amnesty' for 'Outlaws, Bandits'

EA281732 (Clandestine) Voice of the Broad Masses of Eritrea in Tigrinya 0430 GMT 28 Feb 87

[Text] Important declaration of the EPLF: The EPLF has issued an amnesty declaration for all people engaged in any outlaw and bandit activities. The amnesty, which will be in force from 24 February 1987 to 24 June 1987, asks all outlaws and bandits to hand themselves over to the EPLF. No matter what crime they have committed, their crimes have been granted amnesty. The declaration noted that the outlaws and bandits are directly or indirectly collaborating with the Ethiopian regime. (?The EPLF will take stern action against those who do not hand themselves over to the EPLF before the end of the amnesty.)

UGANDA

Museveni Receives North Korean Vice Minister

EA282119 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 28 Feb 87

[Text] President Yoweri Museveni has reaffirmed that the NRM government will continue to support every effort at all international fora aimed at the reunification of Korea. The president was speaking during a discussion he held this morning at State House, Entebbe, with the visiting North Korean vice minister of foreign affairs, Mr Kim Yong-sop. Mr Museveni told him that like in the past it was the desire of the NRA government to leave each people decide their own destiny. [sentence as heard]

The North Korean minister commended the Uganda Government under the guidance of the NRM for the efforts exerted to rehabilitate the economy, bring peace, security and stability. He said that the government and people of North Korea are eager to consolidate the cordial relations existing between Uganda and their country. The North Korean minister, who arrived in Uganda at the beginning of this week on a 7-day goodwill mission visit, also delivered a special message from the North Korean leader Kim Il-song to President Museveni. The Korean Government official was accompanied by his country's ambassador to Uganda, Mr Kim Tae-yong.

CAR

Bokassa Denies Complicity in Concealing Bodies

AB271046 Paris AFP in French 2037 GMT 26 Feb 87

[Excerpt] Bangui, 26 Feb (AFP) — Former Emperor Jean-Bedel Bokassa stated today that he had never been informed of the clandestine burial of the victims who died in April 1979 at the Ngaragba prison in Bangui. The CAR criminal court, which devoted not less than 13 sittings to the fourth count — the massacre of school children and students in January and April 1979 — has now moved on to the fifth count — concealing the bodies. This count has been merged with the third one, which concerned concealing of bodies in general. Various witnesses came to explain the circumstances in which the bodies of at least three young men who died in jail had been thrown into a well opposite the prison and how 26 others were buried in seven mass graves at the capital's cemetery. These burials were ordered by the Ngaragba butcher, Captain Joseph Mokoa, the accused's own cousin, who was commander of the security unit at the prison. Mr Mokoa, who was sentenced to death and executed for crimes in 1980, stated at his own trial and at Bokassa's first trial, during which the runaway head of state was sentenced to death, that he received all his orders from the deposed emperor. [passage omitted].

CHAD

Envoy to UN Calls for Dialogue With Libya

LD261537 Paris Domestic Service in French 1245 GMT 26 Feb 87

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] The Chadian ambassador to the United Nations addressed a letter to the Security Council president saying Chad is ready for dialogue to find a peaceful solution to the conflict with Libya.

Habre Says Al-Qadhdhafi Wants Fada Recaptured

LD271241 Kuwait KUNA in English 1140 GMT 27 Feb 87

[Text] Paris, Feb 27 (KUNA) — Libyan leader Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi is preparing two counter-offensives against Chad, one at Fada, in the east, and the other in the Tibesti mountainous region, in the north-east, according to the president of Chad, Hissein Habre.

In an interview published today by the conservative *Le Quotidien de Paris* daily newspaper, Habre claimed that the locality of Fada, recaaptured by Chadian Government troops in January, is the "obsession" of Colonel al-Qadhdhafi.

The Libyan leader has not given up Fada and his "fundamental objective" in Chad is the reconquest of that locality, he maintained.

But Al-Qadhdhafi is also preparing a third offensive, in the western zone of Darfur, in Sudan, where Libya is massing its troops, at Tine just opposite the town of Iriba, east of Chad and south of the 16th Parallel, claimed Habre. The 16th Parallel or red line divides Chad into a southern part controlled by the government, with the support of French troops, and a northern zone in the hands of Libyan-backed rebels.

France, which has about 2,000 troops now in Chad, has always refused to intervene beyond that fictitious division line.

Talking about clashes in the Tibesti region, Habre said that the Libyan aviation is quite permanently mobilised on that front due to daily attacks by the Chadian troops.

The Tibesti front is a difficult front for Colonel al-Qadhdhafi, but his main objective remains the locality of Fada, just above the 16th Parallel, he added.

Yacoub Notes Libyan Movements

LD271614 Paris International Service in French 1245 GMT 27 Feb 87

[Text] According to Adam Yacoub, chief of general staff of the forces still loyal to Goukouni Oueddei but who are now cooperating with the army of President Hissein Habre, for several days now Libya has been concentrating troops in Sudan along the Chadian frontier without the agreement of the Khartoum government.

Continuing Reportage on Fighting in North

Fada, Zouar Bombed 26-27 Feb

AB271356 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1330 GMT 27 Feb 87

[Text] Fada, Zouar, and the Aozou region continue to be the targets of air raids perpetrated by the Libyan aggression forces. From Thursday night to Friday morning, the Libyan invasion army resumed its attacks on positions held by the Chadian National Armed Forces [FANT] in Fada. This town, we learned from official sources, was continuously bombed throughout last night until this morning by the Libyan Air Force. In the meantime, we have no official tally; it will soon be issued and forwarded to us by the FANT High Command, which has been following the development in the military situation at the war front.

Communique on Zouar Fighting

AB011912 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1850 GMT 1 Mar 87

[Communique No 38 issued by the FANT High Command on 1 March; read by unidentified announcer]

[Text] Yesterday, 28 February 1987, the Libyan soldiery dared attack positions held by the Chadian National Armed Forces [FANT] north of Zouar on the road leading to Wour. As expected, retaliation was lightning. Here is the tally of that attack. On the enemy side, material losses were one T-55 tank destroyed, one (?B.C.) tank destroyed, one tank carrier destroyed, one 14-5 Toyota destroyed, two troop-carrying Toyotas destroyed, two heavy-duty Mercedez destroyed. The enemy, while running away in confusion, left 33 bodies on the field.

On the ally side: nil.

With the FANT the victory is certain. Forward, freedom fighters.

GUNT Announces Release of FANT Minister, Troops

AB281208 (Clandestine) Bardai Chadian National Radio in French 1128 GMT 28 Feb 87

[Communique issued by the GUNT on 26 February in Bardai; read by Information Minister Tolero Gadingar Bao — recorded]

[Text] Conscious of the worsening political and military situation, determined to make every possible effort to help the OAU find a peaceful solution to the Chadian tragedy, and concerned about national unity and reconciliation among Chadians, the GUNT has just decided to release Lieutenant Colonel Ngartokete Talola, Hissein Habre's civil service minister, captured in 1983 during the Kalait and Oum Chalouba fighting, as well as about one hundred soldiers of the Chadian National Armed Forces [FANT].

The GUNT's concern is to do everything possible to achieve national reconciliation among all the sons of this country and to consolidate the much-sought unity. GUNT President Acheikh Ibn Oumar, (?who is determined) to do his best to bring peace back to Chad, (?has just shown) patriotism and clemency by releasing the prisoners of war, which constitutes a great step toward [words indistinct] national reconciliation.

Col Ngartokete [title as heard] and his (?troops) are free and can join their families immediately.

Issued in Bardai on 26 February 1987

[Signed] Minister of information

Bardai: Troops Desert FANT, Rejoin ANL

AB281407 (Clandestine) Bardai National Radio in French 1125 GMT 28 Feb 87

[Text] On the battlefront, the intrepid fighters, commandos, and cadres of the National Liberation Army (ANL) are exercising a forceful pressure on the enemy garrisons to the south of the 16 Parallel, notably in Kalait and Oum Calouba, as well as in Kouba Oulanga. This pressure has another positive result: It enables our brothers who reluctantly fight in the ranks of the enemy armed forces to desert them.

Indeed, these brothers take advantage of the opportunity offered them through the confusion prevailing in the ranks of the Chadian National Armed Forces (FANT). Our brothers Ahamat Mahamat, Younouss, El Hadj Mataila Ousmane, and so many of our soldiers have succeeded in their attempt to rejoin the ANL. When questioned by our reporter, they could not conceal their emotion and happiness to be in the freed zone. They told him what they saw in the occupied French zone. They also expressed their regret for what they have done while serving our enemies.

We rejoin the ranks of our people to continue the struggle against France and the United States of America, they said.

Depicting the situation of our brothers condemened to remain in the forces of evil, Brothers Ahamat Mahamat, Younouss, and El Hadj Mataila Ousmane talked about the extreme sufferings of the FANT soldiers who became cannon fodder and were rotting on the battle fields. Many of these soldiers would like to rejoin GUNT forces, but they cannot do so right now, because of [words indistinct]. Right now, [words indistinct] of our allied brothers (?are going everywhere to reinforce) the attacks of our brave soldiers of the ANL to avoid the concentration of our forces on one single spot.

Brothers Ahamat Mahamat, Younouss, and El Hadj Mataila Ousmane strongly denied the alleged presence of Libyan troops in the north of the country. Our enemy pretends that there is no GUNT, but only Libyan troops fighting on our battlefronts. That is a lie. We had the opportunity to verify this.

On the other hand, our allied brothers gave confirmation of the presence of French troops on the Kouba Oulanga front where FANT forces are supposed to be fighting. Our enemy is presently desperate, and all we have to do is to consolidate the unity within our ranks to free our brothers who are still under the yoke of the imperialistic forces imposed by France and give them the opportunity to rejoin our revolutionary forces.

The Chadian people should unite to fight colonialism. Our brothers were denied everything, even the elementary right to freedom of expression.

We wish a rapid victory for the GUNT with the help of God.

Bardai: French Diplomacy Fails at OAU Session

AB011711 (Clandestine) Bardai Chadian National Radio in French 1100 GMT 1 Mar 87

[Station commentary]

[Text] The French Government, which thought it would be able to impose its political views on the OAU by embarking upon the manipulation of its traditional agents in Africa, has quickly been disappointed. The 45th ministerial session of the OAU, which has just ended in Addis Ababa, has once again been characterized by the diplomatic defeat of France and its FAN [Northern Armed Forces] agents. Defeat is the most appropriate word, because we were aware of the aim being pursued by the French-FAN diplomacy at this OAU ministerial meeting in the Ethiopian capital.

In fact, after the tour by the Congolese president and OAU chairman, Denis Sassou-Nguesso, to Western Europe, the French media [words indistinct] by the Elysee Palace and the Matignon [French Foreign Ministry], predicted recently that there would be a radical change in the OAU's stand on the Chadian issue. This exultant diplomacy of the historic enemy met with the fate it deserved because, contrary to what the former colonial power thought, Ivory Coast, Senegal, the Ndjamena group, Egypt, and other puppets of the West did not succeed in imposing the views of their non-African master. By taking a close look at the recent development in the Chadian conflict during their discussion on Chad, the African foreign minister buried the intentions of the sworn enemies of the African people. Therefore, it was easy to understand the [words indistinct] of the delegate of the Ndjamena group when he alleged that some participants imposed the title of the resolution on him and that he had no choice but to accept it. By so doing, the FAN delegation acknowledged that it did not succeed in forcing the African delegations to accept the proposal dictated to it in the conference corridors by France through its Addis Ababa diplomatic mission.

It has been proved on several occasions that at such meetings some Western diplomats shamelessly make great efforts in the corridors of OAU conferences to influence decisions by the continent's independent states. In fact, what France wanted, and what its representatives at the OAU could not achieve, was to ensure that the ever-increasing French military presence in Chad is legitimized by the OAU. [Words indistinct] the Chadian-Libyan conflict, which is dear to them, and consequently they are seeking a condemnation of Libya's assistance to the struggle of the people. In reality, France only wants to falsify the truth [words indistinct] of all the crimes against the Chadian people.

ZAIRE

Trade Unionists Leave for Soviet Union Visit

AB260957 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1615 GMT 26 Feb 87

[Text] Kinshasa, 26 Feb (AZAP) — Citizens Ndongala N'sibu and Malungu Kunantu, national deputy secretaries of the National Union of Workers of Zaire [UNTZA] in charge of, respectively, the Department of Foreign Relations, and the Energy, Oil, and Chemical Products Workers Federation, left Kinshasa on 25 February for Moscow, where they will take part in the 18th Congress of the All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions [AUCCTU] being held from 24 to 28 February. The UNTZA, it is recalled, has excellent relations of cooperation with Soviet trade unions. These relations have already resulted in mutual visits of the leadership of the two trade union groups to Kinshasa and Moscow, as well as in the presence of a UNTZA delegation at the 1 May festivities every year in Moscow. The Zairian delegation will stay in Moscow for a week at the invitation of the AUCCTU.

BENIN

Chadian Envoy Meets Kerekou, Discusses Ties

AB011125 Cotonou Domestic Service in French 0800 GMT 1 Mar 87

[Text] President Kerekou received an envoy from Chadian President Hissein Habre on Tuesday, 24 February. The envoy, Ahmed Korom, who is secretary of state for foreign affairs and cooperation, brought a message from his president to the head of state. Mr Korom granted the following interview to the press after the audience:

[Begin recording] [Korom] As you can certainly guess, the message touched on the bilateral relations between Chad and the People's Republic of Benin. These relations have remained at a very low level for decades. It was quite natural for there to be some misunderstanding between both states at one time or another during their evolution. The essential thing is that such misunderstanding be cleared up in an African way and in the spirit of friendship. I am strengthened in this regard by the audience which the head of state, President Kerekou, kindly granted me and our ambassador to Lagos.

The head of state showed interest in our briefing and listened to us very patiently. True to himself, the president, who has monitored the Chadian situation for almost 7 years now, encouraged us to work toward peace and reconciliation in Chad. I can assure you that, henceforth, the relations between our two states and countries will be further strengthened in the supreme interest of our two states. We will leave no stone unturned to ensure that the spirit that prevailed at our talks be maintained and fostered for more positive results.

As you know, there is a large Chadian community in the People's Republic of Benin. So we also spoke of the presnece of our nationals here. In this regard, too, I can assure you that Chad will make every effort for these Chadians to return freely to their country. In return, the president asked me to convey his friendly and brotherly greetings and regards to his colleague and friend, President Hissein Habre.

[Reporter] Mr Secretary of State, how can you describe the political situation currently prevailing in Chad?

[Korom] The political situation in Chad? Well, quite frankly, there is nothing particularly striking about this situation. We do have military problems on our northern border with our northern neighbors, who have occupied and carried out unprovoked attacks against our country. They have similarly stirred up what can be described as discord among Chadians. But since the beginning of the year, things have taken a relatively new turn. In spite of the difficulties resulting from the new turn, it can also bring about a positive result, that is unity and concord among Chadians. In this connection, Chad is now more stable and more serene politically. [end recording]

That was the personal view of President Habre's special envoy. Benin, for its part, has always worked for the unity of Chad and the reconciliation of its children without any foreign interference. It has also urged the sons of Chad to work for national reconciliation.

THE GAMBIA

PPP Congress Reelects Jawara Secretary General

AB281302 Paris AFP in French 0952 GMT 28 Feb 87

[Text] Basse (The Gambia), 28 Feb (AFP) — President Dawda Jawara was reelected yesterday evening as secretary general of the People's Progressive Party (PPP) — the ruling party in the Gambia — at the end of the fourth congress that took place at Basse, in eastern Gambia.

President Jawara, who has just been reelected for the fifth time as head of the PPP, said he had confidence in the results of the presidential and legislative elections, predicting a landslide victory for the ruling party. Three candidates will participate in these presidential elections which, according to observers, are expected to result in the victory of President Jawara, who has been in power since the independence of this former British colony in 1965.

The congress also adopted various resolutions concerning economic, political, and cultural matters. The party mainly called for strengthening bonds with Sierra Leone and for creation of shipping services between both countries. Furthermore, the PPP denounced the harassment suffered, according to it, by Gambians upon their arrival in Senegal.

GHANA

Togo Invited to 30th Anniversary Celebrations

AB280841 Paris AFP in French 1727 GMT 27 Feb 87

[Text] Paris, 27 Feb (AFP) — It was learned from Ghanaian diplomatic sources in Paris today that the Ghanaian authorities have invited the Togolese Government to attend the festivities that will mark, on 6 March, the 30th anniversary of Ghana's independence. Observers think that this invitation is a sign of the Ghanaian authorities' desire to resume dialogue with Lome.

Togo was a victim, on 24 September 1986, of a destabilization attempt by a group of terrorists that Lome alleged were from Ghana. Paris at the time, at the request of President Gnassingbe Eyadema, implemented the French-Togolese defense agreement and sent paratroopers and planes to Togo and maintained them there until 5 October 1986.

The border between Ghana and Togo was reopened on 2 February, upon the initiative of the Togolese authorities, who had closed it on 24 September 1986. Ghana, which had denied any involvement in the destabilization attempt, had also closed its border on 9 October 1986.

Ghanaian diplomats are not yet aware of the response the Togolese authorities will give to this invitation.

Government Delegation Leaves for Libyan Visit

AB011836 Accra Domestic Service in English
1800 GMT 1 Mar 87

[Text] A government delegation led by a member of the PNDC, Captain Kojo Tsikata, left Accra this afternoon at the invitation of the Libyan Government. The delegation will participate in the 10th anniversary celebration of the declaration of people's power in Libya and hold talks with Libyan leaders on economic relations between the two countries. Other members of the delegations are Akrasi Saryong, secretary at the office of the chairman of the committee of secretaries; G. Sacky, secretary to the national economic commission; and Theresa Owusu, undersecretary for fuel and power.

GUINEA-BISSAU

President Announces Minor Cabinet Reshuffle

AB272040 Paris AFP in French 1840 GMT 27 Feb 87

[Text] Bissau, 27 Feb (AFP) — Guinea-Bissau President Joao Bernardo Vieira today reshuffled his cabinet. The reshuffle was marked by the appointment of a new minister of justice and the creation of two new secretariats of state (justice and foreign affairs). This was announced in an official communique issued in Bissau.

Following the reshuffle, five personalities have been appointed to the cabinet. They include Nicandro Pereira Barreto as minister of justice. Pereira Barreta, previously permanent secretary of the Ministry of Social Equipment, has replaced Vasco Cabral, leaving the government to become permanent secretary of the Central Committee of the sole party, the African Party for the Independence of Guinea-Bissau and Cape Verde [PAIGC].

The two new secretariats of state for justice and foreign affairs have been entrusted respectively to Manuel Rambou Barcelos, previously secretary of state for education, and Marcelino Lima. Until his appointment, Mr Lima was director general of the Political Affairs Division in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

According to the communique, the three other appointees are Zeca Martins, secretary of state for information; Joao Cardoso, secretary of state for natural resources; and Alexandre Brito Furtado, secretary of state for culture and sports.

The post of secretary of state for culture and sports, to which Mr Brito Furtado was appointed today, had remained vacant since the incumbent, Joao da Silva, died in detention. He had been arrested for his implication in the abortive coup attemted by Colonel Paulo Correia in October 1985.

The communique announcing the cabinet reshuffle also indicates that former Secretary of State for Information Agnelo Augusto Regalla has been relieved of his functions.

Two other former secretaries of state, Pio Correia (natural resources) and Mario Ribeiro (transports), have been appointed secretary of state for transport and secretary of state for education in that order.

This is the first cabinet reshuffle in Guinea-Bissau since the fourth PAIGC ordinary congress last November in Bissau.

IVORY COAST

Comment on Houphouet-Boigny Chad Statement

FRATERNITE MATIN Article

AB271009 Abidjan FRATERNITE MATIN in French
26 February 87 p 25

[F.L. Doubass article: "A Lesson of Courage and Justice"]

[Text] In Africa, when a conflict reaches its height, it is the duty of the "patriarch" — the wiseman — to settle it and reconcile the various antagonists. To do so, he must speak frankly, fairly, and well. President Felix Houphouet-Boigny, one of the oldest heads of state of independent Africa, one of the founding fathers of OAU, aware of his role in this situation, has decided to talk.

In an interview he granted AFP, he broke his silence over the Chadian-Libyan crisis. He spoke, saying in particular that "in the name of the charter of the pan-African organization, the territorial integrity of Chad must be preserved." He said in the name of the sovereignty of each member-state of the OAU, the Libyan aggression in Chad must cease immediately. The occupation of a portion of the Chadian territory (the Aozou Strip) by Tripoli is contrary to the principles of OAU. The patriarch wishes for a distinction between the roles of the French and the Libyan Armies. The Libyan troops are an army of aggression and occupation, while the French contingent in Chad has been called in by the legitimate Chadian Government to help the people defend themselves, and therefore it deserves commendation and respect.

In Africa, tradition demands that after the wiseman has spoken fairly, frankly, and well, the others must do everything to achieve total reconciliation. President Houphouet-Boigny's statements in this interview are undoubtedly a real lesson of courage and sincerity given to his counterparts. It is also meant for the OAU, which, for several years has kept a guilty silence as far as Chad's problems are concerned. Africa as a whole and all peace- and justice-loving men have understood that President Houphouet-Boigny's position is nothing more than a guarantee of security for all African countries, including Libya. Through this unambiguous and clear-cut position, the "old man" has called on the OAU member-states to scrupulously respect the commitments they made in 1963 in Addis Ababa at the signing of the pan-African organization charter. Today, it seems that they have understood the lesson. Since then, voices are being heard from all over Africa calling the Libyans to order. The Libyan aggression is being denounced on all airwaves. On 23 February, at the opening session of the 45th OAU ministerial meeting in Addis Ababa, the secretary general of the organization officially acknowledged that a change has occurred in the Chadian conflict. During the same meeting, the Libyan delegation failed to include on the agenda the Chadian issue, seen through its deformed viewpoint, which makes it appears as French-American aggression. On the contrary, it was the Libyan aggression and the illegal occupation of the Aozou Strip by Libya that were put on the agenda. May Libya, after this already historical interview of the wiseman of Africa, find the road of realism and yield to the call made to it.

Television Director Comments

AB271155 Abidjan FRATERNITE MATIN in French 26 Feb 87 p26

[Ivory Coast Television Programs Director Ally Coulibaly article: "The Sage Has Spoken"]

[Excerpts] It did not require much waiting to see the triumph of the ideas defended by the president a few days ago in an interview he granted to AFP. The head of state's words did not take long to produce results. They are having positive consequences on the course of events. First, a clear-cut awareness of the Chadian realities has been attained. After observing a prudent silence for several months, perhaps several years, on the Chadian tragedy, African countries are gradually awakening from their reserve and demonstrating their determination to oppose any disintegration of the Chadian state. The proof is the declarations being made these days by a number of African heads of state.

President Felix Houphouet-Boigny has thus sparked emulators. Most of them frankly follow directly in his footsteps, without fearing the wrath of Al-Qadhdhafi, by calling on the Libyan leader to withdraw his troops from Chad immediately. The various viewpoints registered will certainly catch on and lead to veritable solidarity with Chad. It can be affirmed that the words of President Felix Houphouet-Boigny have brought an end to the indifference that the Libyan regime had easily exploited in the past. [passage omitted]

As a founding father of the OAU and a great African, he has thus rendered an invaluable service not only to Chad, but to the whole of Africa. It is in the interest of Al-Qadhdhafi to meditate on Felix Houphouet-Boigny's words and to draw lessons from the current situation. Doubtlessly, Felix Houphouet-Boigny has greatly influenced the course of events. The least that can be said is he did not talk to the wind and that the ideas he has sewn continue to spread.

Opposition Party Seeks Formal Recognition

AB272045 London BBC World Service in English 1615 GMT 27 Feb 87

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] In Ivory Coast, the second political party, the Republican Party, is trying to get some sort of recognition. It has been around for 11 years, but the Ivorian Government of President Houphouet-Boigny has solidly stonewalled its attempts to gain respectability. Now the Republican Party is trying to get permission to hold its first official congress. From Abidjan Lyse Doucet cabled this report:

[Begin Doucet recording] The Republiccan Party of Ivory Coast has been trying to get formally recognized since 1980, a demand which is legally possible since, although Ivory Coast has only one political party, the Constitution does allow for more. According to the party's president, Robert Bai Tagro, the request has never been granted but it has also never been refused.

However, he says that some ministers who belong to his Bete tribal group have tried to persuade him not to form a party. Mr Tagro says that he has also been banished to his village and has done military service, an apparent punishment. But since 1983, he has been in Abidjan quietly trying to get his party off the ground, although with apparently little success.

Senior security officials say that they are well aware of Mr Tagro's movements, although they consider his current activities, which include publishing a small newsletter, as harmless. Government officials here discard the party's importance since its membership appears to be very small, and party officials have been making an effort not to upset the authorities.

We have chosen peaceful means to try to disseminate our ideas, says Mr Tagro. He says that if the Republican Party did come to power, it will not radically change the country's liberal economic policies, but will embark on reforms, including eliminating corruption which has surfaced in recent government scandals.

President Houphouet-Boigny has done a lot, Mr Tagro says, but it is time for a new generation, an alternative to the current regime, which has been in power since independence 26 years ago. [end recording]

World Bank Grants $30 Million Industrial Loan

AB281849 Abidjan FRATERNITE MATIN in French 28 Feb 87 p 7

[All quotation marks as published]

[Excerpts] Within the framework of the second structural adjustment loan granted by the World Bank, Ivory Coast has obtained a loan of $30 million, equivalent to 10 billion CFA francs. This loan, called the Industrial Restructuring and Development Loan [PRDI], is, as was stressed by Mr Ehui Bernard, minister of industry, at the opening of the working session held on 25 February at the CCIA [Abidjan World Trade Center], "a logical supplement to the second structural adjustment loan which is aimed essentially at providing a totality of technical and financial services to facilitate and accelerate the adjustment of potentially profitable enterprises." [passage omitted]

Contrary to the traditional method, which involved passing through the intermediary of a financial development company, the PRDI loan is put at the disposal of all the viable institutions of the Ivorian banking system. In addition, a PRDI management committee comprising high officials of the ministries of industry and of economy and finance, the Central Bank of West African States, and the Autonomous Sinking Fund has been set up. [passage omitted]

As this World Bank loan has a life span of 20 years, it is reallocated to the participating banks according to a flexible program that corresponds to the repayment timetable of secondary loans. The period covered by these loans will be from 2 years to 15 years, with a deferred payment period of 1 to 3 years. [passage omitted]

"At the same time, the PRDI rate for the first quater of 1987 has been fixed at 12.23 percent. The amount of each loan shall be at most 60 percent of the total cost of the project and cannot be more than 800 million CFA per project." [passage omitted]

NIGERIA

Oil Prices To Rise by 20 Percent in April

AB281337 Dakar PANA in English 1245 GMT 28 Feb 87

[Text] Lagos 28 Feb. (NAN/PANA) — The prices of petroleum products in Nigeria, ranging from kerosene to diesel, are to rise by 20 percent in April, the *Guardian* newspaper reported yesterday, quoting a government official.

The press secretary to the chief of General Staff, Mr Yusuf Mamman, who announced the increase on Thursday [26 February] in Lagos, said that the move would generate more revenue for the government.

With the 20 percent increase in price of the products, it means that the Federal Government has totally withdrawn its subsidy on locally marketed oil, the newspaper reported.

Last year, the government reduced its subsidy by 80 percent, increasing prices of petroleum products by the same amount.

Subsequently, the price of fuel per litre went up from 20k (about 0.05 US dollar) to 39.5k (about 0.10 dollar).

"There are immense benefits to the larger society to be accrued from the complete withdrawal of petroleum subsidy," Mr Yusuf said.

SENEGAL

Prosecutor Denies Nouakchott Extradition Request

AB271112 Paris AFP in French 1832 GMT 26 Feb 87

[Text] Dakar, 26 Feb (AFP) — The office of the director of public prosecutions of Dakar today dismissed the request by the Mauritanian Government for the extradition of Captain Moulaye el Hachem Ould Ahmed, a former member of the CMSN — the ruling organ in Mauritania — in exile in Senegal. This is because, according to it, the notification procedures in force in Senegal had not been respected by Nouakchott.

Mr Hachem, 39, former high commissioner for food security, fled Mauritania where he had been under house arrest in the south since the fall of the regime of Lieutenant Colonel Mohamed Khouna Ould Haidala in December 1984. In December 1986, he succeeded in escaping to Senegal following, he said, the refusal of the Mauritanian authorities to allow him to undergo treatment for viral hepatitis and kidney stones. He was arrested in Dakar in January 1987 after an international arrest warrant was issued against him by the Mauritanian Government, which accuses him of embezzling public funds.

Taking as a basis the Senegalese law that provides that a request for extradition must be sent to the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Justice through diplomatic channels, the Senegalese office of the director of public prosecutions ruled that the Mauritanian request had not abided by the established procedures and that the arrest of Mr Hachem was not in conformity with the law. It therefore ordered the accused, who was defended by the Senegalese lawyer Daouda Ba, released on bail.

According to Senegalese law, Mr Hachem can no longer be extradited as the office's decision cannot be reconsidered. His lawyer has decided to submit on his behalf an application for political asylum to the Senegalese authorities.

ANGOLA

FAPLA Reports 85 UNITA 'Bandits' Killed 5-12 Feb

MB280937 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 28 Feb 87

[Text] FAPLA fighters stationed in the third region have achieved more successes against the puppets in the service of racist South African regime. Our brave fighters killed 85 UNITA bandits between 5 and 12 February. They also captured from the bandits 16 AKM weapons, 13 hand grenades, 10 60-mortar projectiles, 18 (?pv-72) weapons, 2 radio equipment [instalacoes de radio], and a large quantity of ammunitions. One member of the UNITA puppet group was also taken prisoner.

MOZAMBIQUE

MNR Removes Officials in Bid To Improve Image

MB281431 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1400 GMT 28 Feb 87

[Text] There has been shuffling of positions within the Mozambican National Resistance Movement. A rebel official says one of the MNR founder members, Evo Fernandes, has been removed from the organization's National Council and former Lisbon spokesperson Jorge Correia has been expelled. The official MNR spokesperson says both men have been harming the MNR through their scheming, petty corruption, and self-promotion. MNR sources have acknowledged that the movement is keen to improve its international image, which is generally that of an undisciplined armed band with few political ideals.

Guebuza Leaves for Visit to Pakistan, PRC

MB281933 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1900 GMT 28 Feb 87

[Text] Transport and Communications Minister Armando Guebuza left today for the Islamic Republic of Pakistan on a working visit aimed at strengthening cooperation. While in Pakistan, Minister Guebuza will explain southern Africa's difficult situation and the role of SADCC. Minister Guebuza will also visit the PRC, where he will deliver a speical message from President Joaquim Chissano to Li Xiannian, his Chinese counterpart.

NAMIBIA

Political Reaction to Pienaar Speech Noted

MB010841 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0823 GMT 1 Mar 87

["News Analysis" by Johann van Heerden]

[Text] Windhoek March 1 SAPA — This week's political turbulence caused by a speech by the South African state president's representative in SWA/Namibia, Mr Louis Pienaar, has highlighted stark differences of approach to a resolution of the dispute over the territory.

In a statement in Cape Town last Thursday, the state president, Mr P.W. Botha, said he stood fully by the remarks contained in Mr Pienaar's speech at the opening of the SWA/Namibian National Assembly. "Mr Pienaar is continually in contact with me on progress made by the government of national unity on the constitutional road," Mr Botha said. "I am satisfied that in his speech to the opening of the National Assembly on February 24, 1987 he was fully acted within his rights and powers after consulting with me beforehand."

Mr Pienaar told the SWA/Namibian National Assembly last Tuesday that South Africa had strong views on broadening the base for political consultation in the territory. In a speech described as "controversial," Mr Pienaar told astonished members of the Transitional Government that they had fallen short of South Africa's clearly stated policy.

South Africa did not regard the SWA/Namibian Constitutional Council as sufficiently representative to take valid decisions, and Pretoria did not necessarily view the majority aspirations of the SWA/Namibian people as identical to the will of the majority in the multi-racial Transitional Government. The administrator-general suggested that regional ethnic elections be held to determine who the leaders were. To that end South Africa was prepared to take back certain government functions from the transitional authority, stunned members of the National Assembly heard.

In a statement published today, the chairman of the Ovambo administration, Mr Peter Kalangula (who is not in the Transitional Government), said he had found the elections statement "interesting." After discussions with Mr Pienaar in Windhoek yesterday, Mr Kalangula indicated that his Christian Democratic Action Party would ask for an interview with Mr Botha to pursue the issue.

Mr Kalangula and the leader of the Damara Council, Mr Justus Garoeb, have repeatedly declined invitations to join the SWA-/Namibian Transitional Government, which consists of six political groups. Mr Kalangula has demanded ethnic elections among the numerically large Ovambo group before he would consider the Transitional Government while Mr Garoeb, who briefly sat in the precursor to the Transitional Government — the Multi-party Conference — has been aligned with SWAPO since 1984

Already fears have been expressed that if the two leaders should enter the Transitional Government after ethnic elections, they would claim to represent nearly 70 per cent of the SWA-/Namibian population and demand representation accordingly in the National Assembly and the cabinet.

Mr Pienaar was seen as referring to Mr Kalangula and Mr Garoeb, particularly, when he quoted Mr Botha as saying there were "important" leaders in SWA/Namibia who were not yet part of a broadened base of political consultation. Mr Pienaar said the "blame for their non-involvement" did not lie exclusively with the Transitional Government, but "the responsibility of achieving the participation of others would rest principally on those wielding power. One might have expected certain overt strategies to achieve that objective."

In a diametrically opposed view, the SWA/Namibian Transitional Cabinet shifted the responsibility for attracting other parties to the Transitional Government to Mr Pienaar. It said in a statement after an extraordinary session last Tuesday that it "commend to the administrator-general that he should use whatever influence he has at his disposal to encourage those important leaders in the SWA set-up, who despite repeated invitations to do so, have refused to join the process of national reconciliation, to do so at the earliest possible opportunity."

The cabinet reiterated that it was determined to "eliminate from SWA/Namibia's constitutional instrument all traces of racism and forced ethnic segregation" to be replaced by non- racial geographic administrative units in which all sections would be represented. "There is no going back on that decision," the SWA/Namibian cabinet statement said.

The statement was issued after a majority vote, with the SWA National Party and the Rehoboth Liberated Democrats apparently voting against it, which reaffirmed divisions inside the cabinet itself.

SWAPO, which says it has been waging guerrilla warfare in SWA/Namibia for nearly 21 years against South Africa's control of the territory, said in a statement from Luanda published in Windhoek on Friday that the Transitional Government's announced programme of action was part of "the musical chairs" played in the territory. Since 1978, Pretoria had been experimenting with a host of "weird schemes" to cobble together some kind of internal political alternative, the SWAPO statement said. The drafting of a "bogus constitution" in Windhoek "will never be worth the paper on which it was being written because its authors have absolutely no support from the Namibian people."

The SWAPO statement said the fundamental point that Pretoria and the Transitional Government should grasp was that the path of an internal solution was actually a dead-end street. "Whatever they may say and do, the puppets (the Transitional Government) will find themselves in the same position as did Abel Muzorewa in Rhodesia," SWAPO said. They wil be unable "to stop the war and gain international support."

In another statement published today, the Coloured Labour Party (a member of the Transitional Government), saw Mr Pienaar's speech as an attempt to "use Namibia" for political purposes in the forthcoming election among whites in South Africa.

The right-wing Herstigte Nasionale Party [Reformed National Party] in SWA/Namibia (outside the government) urged Mr Botha in an earlier telexed message to accord the same recognition to "own affairs" (group rights) in the territory as it did in South Africa.

In his speech, Mr Pienaar emphasised that a future constitution should safeguard minority rights in the territory.

The Labour Party said in its statement it found incomprehensible "the sudden desire" for ethnic elections, which would be in sharp contrast "with the present climate of national reconciliation" in SWA/Namibia.

In 1985 ethnic elections due to be held in SWA/Namibia were cancelled and the official reason given was that it would cause tensions, and even a split, in the Transitional Government if the six member parties had to go through the strains of fighting each other in second-tier elections.

In another statement published on Friday, a left-wing group of the SWA National Union [SWANU] (outside the government) said the Transitional Government was "at the mercy" of Pretoria. The state president's Proclamation R101, which instituted the SWA/Namibian Government on June 17, 1985, was just a piece of paper" which could be revoked at any time. If Mr Kalangula and Mr Garoeb should join the constitutional process they were certain to lose their following, said the statement by SWANU, locally known as SWANU Progressives. "If Mr Botha wants to collect a bunch of former leaders in order to promote fake legitimisation of the (SWA/Namibian constitutional) process in the international community, then he can go ahead with his plans," the statement said. It also called for an immediate end to South Africa's rule of SWA/Namibia, directly or by proxy.

A SWANU faction inside the transitional government said in a statement that Mr Pienaar, as South Africa's representative in SWA/Namibia, had made "improper" and tactless remarks which constituted "interference in our internal affairs." Mr Pienaar's "confrontation attitude" undermined the credibility of the Transitional Government at home and was not conducive to good relations between the Transitional Government and the state president. Mr Pienaar knew that his speech was made at a time when "a meeting was being planned between the Transitional Government and the South African state president," the statement said.

The Democratic Turnhalle Alliance, which commands three of the eight cabinet portfolios, said in a statement that Mr Pienaar's remarks could be construed as "a motion of no-confidence" in the SWA/Namibian Government. The previous interim government, dissolved in 1982, was elected with an 80 per cent majority, the DTA said, but it was "also branded as non-representative, because certain parties were in their own opinions not sufficiently represented. Are we on that same road again?" The DTA said Pretoria should ponder the possibility that the alliance could "through frustration and dissapointment" decide to withdraw after so many unsuccessful constitutional attempts. The cardinal question in the SWA/Namibian dispute was "how many times the political process must still be brought to a standstill to accommodate parties who stubbornly refuse to take part in that process other than on their own preconditions," the DTA said.

SWAPO Says 40 RSA Troops Killed 'Last Month'

AU271409 Paris AFP in English 1348 GMT 27 Feb 87

[Text] Lisbon, Feb 27 (AFP) — The guerrilla movement fighting for independence in the South African-controlled territory of Namibia said that its troops killed 40 South African soldiers and wounded 138 others in fighting last month in Namibia.

A statement issued Thursday in the Angolan capital, Luanda, by the South West Africa Peoples Organization (SWAPO), said the guerrillas also shot down two South African helicopters and destroyed 30 military vehicles during the same period.

It said 14 SWAPO fighters were killed in the fighting.

The statement also denied South African military reports that South African forces killed 60 SWAPO guerrillas January 26 during a raid into southern Angola, where the independence movement has its rear bases.

The South African-led South West Africa Territory Force has said that it has killed 272 SWAPO guerrillas so far this year while losing 18 soldiers.

SOUTH AFRICA

Police Find Pistol in Raid on Mandela Home

MB271327 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1300 GMT 27 Feb 87

[Text] Latest report from Soweto say police did find a gun in the Mandela home. Police raided the house this morning and after reportedly finding a Soviet-made Makarov pistol, detained ANC leader Nelson Mandela's daughter Zinzi. She has been released after several hours of questioning. Police have confirmed that 26-year-old Miss Mandela had been held for questioning, but have declined to provide further details of the incident. Police officials also say they have no information on reports from witnesses that several youths were taken into custody at the Mandela house after a clash between rival groups. One resident said there was shooting during the clash, and a member of the soccer team sponsored by the Mandela family was injured.

Further on Zinzi Mandela

MB271412 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1411 GMT 27 Feb 87

[Text] Johannesburg, Feb 27, SAPA — Security police swooped on jailed ANC leader Nelson Mandela's home in Soweto early this morning and took his daughter Zinzi away for a few hours of questioning.

The Mandela's lawyer Mr Ismael Ayob said Zinzi was released at about midday after he and Mrs Winnie Mandela had gone to the Protea security police headquarters in Soweto where the questioning took place.

Mr Ayob said he had no details about reports that police found a Soviet-made pistol on top of Zinzi's cupboard after conducting a thorough search of the house.

"The police have also not said whether they plan to lay any charges against Zinzi," he said.

"A large number of police arrived at about 7.30 today and took Zinzi and a pile of her belongings away after searching the house."

About 10 young members of the Mandela United Football Club [FC] were also taken into custody from the Mandela home at about 10.30am today, Mr Ayob added.

Police have not confirmed the arrests or given Mr Ayob any details.

A spokesman for the SAP public realations directorate in Pretoria told SAPA he had been unable to contact the police liaison officer for Soweto to find out about the reported arrests.

Mr Ayob said he had not heard of reports from local residents that shots were fired this morning after a rival football team arrived at the home.

Residents told reporters earlier today that one member of the Mandela FC was injured in the shooting.

On Wednesday, the Mandela home was stoned by students from a local school after their football team clashed with Mandela United members over the use of a sports ground. The wall surrounding the house was damaged and in all about R1000 was caused.

WEEKLY MAIL Looks at Heunis-Worrall Election

MB280552 Johannesburg THE WEEKLY MAIL in English 27 Feb-5 Mar 87 p 7

[By Jean le May]

[Text] Helder, as in Helderberg, means "clear, distinct, plain, lucid".

Which about sums up Chris Heunis' problem there. If anyone in government is responsible for the phenomenon of Worrall, Malan, and the 22 percent of Nationalists who want more reform more quickly, it is Heunis.

As government's architect of reform he has perplexed, muddled and bewildered the electorate to the extent that he is now in real trouble in Helderberg.

Former ambassador Denis Worrall's chances looked good even before the Conservative Party entered the fray this week with the decision to nominate Somerset West businessman Len de Wet.

Informed sources reckon that Worrall needs to capture 21 percent of the Nat vote to win.

The arithmetic behind this (which allows for 111 spoilt papers) is that in 1981 Heunis gained 65 per cent of votes and the PFP candidate, Pierce Newton-king, 35 percent.

With the CP syphoning off an estimated five percent from Heunis, the pre-Worrall projection would have read: Heunis, 60 out of every hundred votes, PFP 35, CP 5. Worrall must now get 47.5 percent of the total vote (plus one vote) to win, made up of the 35 percent PFP vote plus 12.5 percent, and that 12.5 percent of the total vote is 21 percent of the Nat vote.

The significant figure here is that even Con Botha, chief information officer of the National Party, has conceded that 22 percent of Nationalist supporters countrywide are New Nationalists.

Even more significant is the fact that Professor Sampie Terreblanche, the Stellenbosch political scientist who made his own waves this week by resigning from the NP, puts the percentage of New Nationalists as high as 30 percent.

This arithmetic makes several assumptions: first, that New Nationalists are fed up enough with the NP to switch thier votes from the NP to an independent candidate. Even allowing for Worrall's high profile, this could be a dangerous assumption.

Secondly, it assumes that the PFP has held its support in the constituency. Newton-king, who stood against Heunis in 1977 and 1981 and had "no trouble" being elected to the Stellenbosch Divisional Council, is confident that it has.

It also assumes that the CP vote in Helderberg will be as high as five percent. The party is said to be pinning its hopes on a few hundred "ex-Rhodesians" and "ex-south West Africans" who have moved to the benign valleys of Helderberg.

As for Heunis and the Nats, there is not the slightest doubt that all the stops will be pulled out. Heunis is the sitting member — always an advantage — a high profile cabinet minister and Cape leader of the NP.

He also has the vociferous support of the influential Cape newspaper, *Die Burger*, which has been described as indulging in "awesome partisanship" during elections.

And Heunis is said to be a good constituency MP, always available and always affable to the grassroots if not to political opponents: not a few long-standing Nats have expressed slight shock that he descended to undignified rhetoric in describing Worrall as a "carpet-bagger", a "vulture" and a PFP "phantom".

The words may backfire, as talk of vultures and phantoms has the smell of death about it.

For there are early signals that Worrall has a very good chance.

Helderberg, after all, is 49 percent English-speaking, according to the voters' roll. Most of it was once part of Sir De Villiers Graaff's Hottentot Hollands constituency.

Twenty-three percent of voters are over the age of 60 years, and may cherish memories of Div (but may, of course, fear change).

There are very few blue-collar workers among the voters of Helderberg. It is predominantly a community of young, upwardly mobile families — the classic Yuppy profile which, when it is applied to an electorate, is bad news for procrastinators.

These families are concentrated in Somerset West, which has seen astonishing expansion and where close on 11,000 of the constituency's 21,600 voters now live, in Gordon's Bay (about 2,000) and in the southern suburbs of Stellenbosch, where 3,500 Helderberg voters live.

Among those Stellenbosch voters are many of the academics and business and professional people whose enthusiasm for the old NP has waned visibly.

Only 292 voters are registered from farming families, but since Helderberg lies at the heart of the spectacularly-beautiful Stellenbosch wine route this is farming with a difference.

PAC Seen Behind Recent Soweto, Alexandra Attacks

MB280742 Johannesburg THE STAR in English
28 Feb 87 p 1

[By Glenda Spiro]

[Text] The Pan-Africanist Congress (PAC) appears to have launched attacks in South Africa for the first time in 24 years in the guise of the "Scorpion Gang".

Last week the Government announced that five members of a PAC hit-squad were caught trying to enter South Africa from Botswana.

Three of the captured PAC fighters who were trained in Libya, were among guerrillas arrested at Athens airport last year, but they were later released by the Greek authorities.

According to President Botha, the "hit-squad" was on its way to Harare for training when apprehended.

The "Scorpion Gang" connection comes as a result of the PAC claiming responsibility for attacks the gang has carried in Soweto and Alexandra recently.

Scorpion machine guns have been deployed in many parts of South Africa, according to Mr Ahmed Gora Ebrahim, the PAC secretary for foreign affairs who said his organisation remained firm in its commitment (rest of sentence deleted in terms of the Emergency Regulations).

Political scientist Dr Tom Lodge said that if the PAC claims were true, it was the first time the organisation had carried out attacks in South Africa since the early 1960s.

"For a long time the PAC has been plagued by weak leadership, but this is not the case anymore." (Sentence deleted).

Dr Lodge said the sudden emergence of the PAC was significant. (Sentence deleted)

(Three paragraphs deleted.)

The PAC was founded in 1959 when radical Africanists broke away from the ANC because they were disenchanted with the ANC's sympathetic attitude towards whites. Last year, the PAC elected as its president Mr Zephania Motthopeng, who currently serving a 30-year prison sentence in South Africa. He was arrested after the 1976 Soweto uprisings.

A spokesman for the South African Police said they were investigating various leads on the scorpion gang, but would not comment on their progress.

Defense Minister Says Emergency 'Will Remain'

MB011841 Johannesburg Television Service in English 1800 GMT 1 Mar 87

[Text] The minister of defense, General Magnus Malan, says the State of Emergency will remain in force as long as South Africa's freedom is threatened. Gen Malan, who was speaking at a function in Johannesburg for the Portuguese welfare association, also gave the assurance that the defense force would guard the country's borders whereever necessary.

[Begin Malan videorecording] Our overriding concern is to create conditions of stability and of lasting peace in our Republic. Stability is a multidimensional situation; it demands a program of action on all fronts and at all levels. It demands the physical combating of terrorist incursions from neighboring countries, and that applies not only to Mozambique and Angola but also to our other neighbors. But it is also a question of fostering good relationships in the home, in the office, in the shop, in the factory, between the employer and the employee, and between people of different races. It is a question of taking precautions against, and being aware of, the threat of limpet mines and unattended parcels in public places. But is is also a question of providing better schooling, better houses, better opportunities, to less privileged communities. In other words, stability is a question of being prepared to meet violence and revolution, but also of being prepared morally. [end videorecording]

Alleged SADF Spy in Court, Remanded to 4 May

MB271304 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1301 GMT 27 Feb 87

[Text] Pretoria, Feb 27, SAPA — SADF alleged spy Maj Andre Pienaar was remanded to May 4 after a brief in-camera hearing in the Pretoria Supreme Court today.

Mr Justice W.j. Human ordered the hearing to be held in camera after Mr J.D. Visser, who appeared for the state, said that for "important reasons" the hearing should be held behind closed doors.

He said the reasons for the request for the hearing to be held in camera were of such a nature that they could also not be made known.

The public was ordered to leave the court before Maj Pienaar, 32, was brought in from the basement cells. The hearing was presently adjourned, and Maj Pienaar taken to the Pretoria Central Police station cells. He had been held in terms of Section 29 of the internal Security Act since his arrest at Jan Smuts Airport in December last year. According to the charge sheet, Maj Pienaar will be charged with six offences, under the protection of Information Act and the Defence Act.

Ciskei Refugees Being Trucked Back to Homes

MB281031 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1000 GMT 28 Feb 87

[Text] The Ciskei refugees who fled Potsdam earlier this month are being delivered back to their village. Franz Kruger has the details.

[Kruger] The massive joint operation is backed by the SADF and the police. The refugees are being taken back to Potsdam from where they fled in the face of extensive harassment by the Ciskei police. A spokesman for the police liaison division in Pretoria confirmed the operation, which he said was being mounted with the agreement of the Ciskei authorities.

When I went out to the area, this morning, it was sealed off and only security force vehicles were allowed through. However, the members of the 2,000-strong community said security forces had arrived very early this morning and announced that trucks would be taking them back to Potsdam. The refugees fled from the area in early February and set up a makeshift camp at the roadside just across the border with South Africa. They have been pleading to be given a place to live anywhere that is not in Ciskei.

Miners Rally in Support of NUM as Congress Ends

MB011611 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1609 GMT 1 Mar 87

[Text] Johannesburg, March 1, SAPA — At a celebration of opposition to apartheid yesterday, more than 15,000 black South African miners packed into the Soweto's tiny Jabulani stadium.

The miners also gave their support for the National Union of Mineworkers' endorsement of the African National Congress Freedom Charter and for the union's threatened seizure of the country's mines if the system of migrant labor and single sex tribally segregated hostels was not ended.

While technically yesterday's rally has no standing in union decision making, it was a dramatic finale to the annual congress of the 360,000 strong National Union of Mineworkers. It went ahead without interference from the South African police or Army despite the openly and enthusiastically expressed support for the ANC, and jailed leader, Nelson Mandela.

There was applause whenever Mandela's name — and that of current ANC President Oliver Tambo — were mentioned, indicating massive endorsement of a congress decision to put the union into a far more explicitly activist anti-apartheid position.

Explosions of applause greeted the announcement of the decision to seize control of South Africa's mines if mine bosses did not agree to immediately begin negotiating an end to migrant labour. On Thursday, the union voted to begin preparations for a nation strike if, as a run up to these negotiations, mine bosses did not hand over control of single sex tribally segregated mine hostel accommodation to the union, and democratically elected hostel supervisors.

This decision follow months of faction fighting among black

South African miners, which the union maintain is encouraged by mine managers, to weaken the union's fast growing support.

At its four day congress, the union, the most powerful ever in South Africa, representing more than half of the country's black miners, also voted to adopt the Freedom Charter policy document of the ANC.

Its fifth annual congress, which began on Wednesday, was opened by Winnie Mandela, wife of jailed ANC leader Nelson Mandela.

Shortly after she spoke, a massive hundred square foot banner bearing a hand drawn picture of Mandela — the union's honorary life president — was unfurled by miners from the Kimberly diamond field.

And throughout the proceedings — also addressed by UDF Publicity Secretary Murphy Morobe and COSATU General Secretary J. Naidoo — delegates voiced their support for the UDF.

The congress was marked by repeated implications that NUM, and thus its umbrella federation COSATU, are planning to play a far more explicity political role in ending apartheid in South Africa and in the creation of a non-racial, democratic — and socialist — South Africa.

Poll Shows 75 Percent of Whites Favor Reform

MB020955 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0823 GMT 2 Mar 87

[Text] Cape Town Mar 2 SAPA — Attitude research released here indicates that three out of four voters support fundamental reform in South Africa. Half the nation's voters believe genuine powersharing among all race groups will be achieved within the next five years.

The research, based on a poll comprising 1,500 respondents, was conducted by the University of Cape Town's graduate school of business former director, Dr John Simpson. It also indicates that the backing of the right wing by the government and the state president is out of keeping with the mood of the country.

Additionally, he maintains, the results show that CP and HNP supporters have been permanently lost by the National Party. Dr Simpson interpreted the results as indicating that dissident nats [NP members] would not vote for the PFP as such. New Nat candidates were accordingly wise to remain independent of the PFP.

At the time of the poll in November and December last year, 55 percent of respondents indicated they would vote for the NP, 12 percent for the CP, 11 per cent for the PFP, four per cent for the HNP and two per cent for the NRP [New Republic Party].

Quality of leadership was a highly ranked concern among those against the NP, but the state president was the most highly favoured political leader. He was supported by 47 per cent of the respondents, Mr Pik Botha by 24 per cent, Mr Andries Treurnicht by seven per cent, Dr van Zyl Slabbert by six per cent, Mr Jaap Marais and Mr Eugene Terreblanche by two per cent and Mr Colin Eglin, chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi and Nelson Mandela by one per cent.

WEEKLY MAIL Carries 'Apartheid Barometer'

MB271748 Johannesburg THE WEEKLY MAIL in English 27 Feb-5 Mar 87 p 4

["Apartheid Barometer"]

[Excerpts] **Detentions**

The names of all those detained under the Emergency regulations have still not been released by the government. Minister of Law and Order Adriaan Vlok said in parliament last week that he did not deem it in the interests of the country to give the total number of people detained under the Emergency regulations. He said these figures would be "misused" by extra-parliamentary organisations such as the UDF, ANC and South African Communist Party.

Last week he released the names of about 4,000 people who had been detained for longer than a month under the Emergency regulations. Last year the government released the names of 9,287 people who had been detained for longer than a month under the Emergency. This brings to over 13,000 the number of people the government has admitted it has detained for over a month under its Emergency laws. Vlok said over 1,000 of these people had been charged but did not say how many had been convicted.

In addition to the Emergency detentions, Vlok said 3,512 people had been detained under Section 50 of the internal Security Act for periods of between one and 14 days. 159 of these detainees were charged, 21 were convicted and 138 were acquitted or had charges against them withdrawn. He said eight people were held under Section 28 (1) of the Internal Security Act for periods between 158 and 259 days and between June 12, 1986, and February 9, 1987, 310 people had been held in solitary confinement in terms of Section 29 of the Internal Security Act. Vlok said 362 people were currently being held under Section 29.

The Detainees Parents' Support Committee [DPSC] report for 1986 estimates that 2,840 people were detained under the country's security legislation. This is more than 1,000 less than the government's figure which does not include the "independent homelands".

Detention of Children

According to the Detainees Parents' Support Committee 876 children aged 18 or under are listed on their files as having been detained since the start of the Emergency, though they stress the real figures is far higher. The DPSC estimates that about 10,000 children were detained last year.

Of those whose names are known to the DPSC, 684 are aged 17 or under. Of the 876 aged 17 or younger, 156 have been released (17.81 percent) and 720 remain in detention. 127 children aged 17 or under have been released (18.57 percent) while 557 remain in detention. Three have been charged.

The DPSC's breakdown of the ages of these children is as follows: aged 10 - two; 11 - six (three still held): 12 - nine (five); 13 - 29 (21); 14 - 86 (70); 15 - 134 (113); 16 - 217 (178); 17 - 201 (167); 18 - 192 (163).

Nearly 200 of these children are being held in Kagiso/Munsieville, Soweto has about 220 and Tembisa 76.

60 of these child detainees have reported being assaulted or tortured. Minister of Law and Order Adriaan Vlok said in parliament last week that 282 children aged 15 or under were currently being held in detention.

Teargassing of Detainees

Minister of Justice Kobie Coetsee last month gave details of 20 incidents in which teargas was used against detainees in prison since July 21, 1985. The examples given involved groups of up to 300 detainees.

Brain Drain

A total of 2,164 professional and technical workers emigrated during 1986 while 1,026 immigrated, a net loss of 1,128. This figure included members of the following professions: doctors - 80 (49 immigrated); dentists - 12 (5); medical, dental and veterinary workers - 271 (118); lawyers - 50 (5); teachers - 263 (90); economists - 287 (53); engineers - 616 (370); architects/town planners - 30 (13); social workers - 17 (6); quantity surveys - 33 (8); scientists - 83 (59); aircraft and ship officers - 10 (4); statisticians, mathematicians and systems analysts - 153 (63); jurists - 7 (4); authors, writers and journalists - 56 (23); sculptors, painters and other artists - 82 (46); religious workers - 40 (49); composers and performing artists - 25 (28); athletes - 8 (12); others - 42 (24).

SADF Suicides

According to Minister of Defence General Magnus Malan, 453 SADF members committed suicide or attempted to commit suicide. He said that of the 24 successful suicides, four involved members of the Citizen Force and two the Commandos and the rest were National Servicemen. Of the 429 attempted suicides, 362 involved National Servicemen, 56 members of the Permanent Force and 11 Commando members. The figure of 362 shows an increase of nearly 500 percent over that of the previous year. In 1985, 78 National Servicemen attempted suicide.

Of the 362 National Servicemen who attempted suicide, 272 took drug overdoses, 58 slashed their wrists, 10 shot themselves, four swallowed glass, four stabbed themselves, three swallowed razor blades, one jumped from a building and one drank poison.

Prisoner of Conscience

Wilfred Rhodes, 45, UDF Western Cape vice president and Cape Housing Action Committee leader, was detained under the Emergency regulations on June 12 last year and is still being held.

Rhodes first became politically active in the late 1970s when he helped found the Kensington-factoryton Tenants' and Ratepayers' Association. In 1981 he was elected head of the new Cape Housing Action Committee (CAHAC) and has held this position ever since.

In 1982 he joined the National Union of Textile Workers (NUTW), having worked in a Cape Town textile factory for 15 years. He played an active role in the union - and was fired from his job in 1983. After a long court case he was paid compensation for loss of earnings but did not get his job back.

Rhodes was a founder member of the UDF and in 1983 was elected to the Western Cape UDF executive. He has since served as regional vice president.

In July 1985 he was detained under Section 29 of the Internal Security Act and held for two months. He was detained again in October 1985 and held for six weeks. In June 12, 1986, he was detained for the third time and is still being held in Pollsmoor Prison. He is married with three children.

Banned Books, Publications and Objects

1987 *UDF Calender* (UDF, Observatory/Claremont); *Fidel Castro on Chile* (Pathfinder Press, New York); *Realities* Spring Issue (Blac, Athlone); *Ekapa*, Vol 1 No 3, December 86 (Ekapa, Athlone); *African Journal of Political Economy No 1 1986, and for Solidarity Year XXII, No 2, 1986* (both not stated); *Censoring Reality: An Examination of Books on South Africa* (Beverley Naidoo) [passage omitted].

Unbanned:

South Africa: A Political and Economic History (Alex Hepple); *The Orton Diaries* (John Lahr); *The Carnage Merchants* (Jonathan Black).

Information Bureau Reports 27 Feb Unrest

MB280914 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0912 GMT 28 Feb 87

[Text] Pretoria Feb 28 SAPA — Following is the Bureau for Information unrest situation report for the period 00h01 to 23h59 yesterday:

"Only a few isolated unrest-related incidents, among which one case of robbery and one case of arson were reported during this period. The others were all incidents of stone-throwing.

"In Mafolo, Soweto, approximately 20 blacks set a private home on fire, causing extensive damage. The motive is unknown.

"In Meadowlands, Soweto, a tractor belonging to the city council was robbed. Again the motive is unknown and no arrest has yet been made.

"During a stone-throwing incident in the Isando industrial area in Kempton Park a black man, over 18 years of age, was arrested. Nobody was injured in this incident."

28 Feb Unrest Report

MB011028 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1025 GMT 1 Mar 87

[Text] Pretoria March 1 SAPA — The Bureau for Information's unrest situation report for the period 0001 to 2359 yesterday (Feb

28) follows;

"Only a small number of unrest-related incidents was reported during the above period and these incidents occurred in Soweto, and in the black residential areas of Chesterville (Durban), Mpumulange (Hamersdale, natal), Isimadeni (Pietermaritzburg) and Linghlile (Cradock, E. province).

"Most of the incidents comprised stone-throwing at municipal buses or security force vehicles. Only minor damage was incurred and nobody was injured.

"In Doringkop cemetary (Soweto) a PUTCO [Public Utility Transport Corporation] bus was robbed and extensive damage caused. Nobody has yet been arrested.

"Isolated cases were reported from the Cradock area (eastern Province) where unidentified persons fired shots at security force vehicles. In two cases slight damage was caused to the vehicles. The security forces returned the fire. Nobody was injured or arrested.

"In Mpumulange black residential area the security forces had to break up a large gathering of blacks at a funeral, during which incident a white woman of over 18 years of age was arrested."

1 Mar Unrest Report

MB020943 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0926 GMT 2 Mar 87

[Text] Pretoria Mar 2 SAPA — Here follows the unrest-report for the period 0001 to midnight last night (March 1) issued by the Bureau for Information in Pretoria.

All the unrest-related incidents reported during the abovementioned period, except one, comprised stone throwing at buses and security force vehicles.

The exception was a petrol bomb attack on the home of a Mr Masinga in Magabeni (Umkomaas) in which Mr Masinga sustained burn wounds.

Property damage in all the cases was reported as being minimal and no arrests have yet been made.

Press Comments on Current Issues, Problems

28 Feb Press Review

MB280422 [Editorial Report]

CITIZEN on Western 'Hypocrisy'

"The West is worse than the Soviets and their satellites who are trying to take over this country through their surrogate force, the African National Congress," Johannesburg *The Citizen* in English on 27 February says in a page 6 editorial. The Soviets don't pretend they will replace the present set-up here with a Western-style democracy. It will be a one-party Marxist state, nothing less. The West, on the other hand, tries to force us into one man, one vote majority rule, claiming it is for the good of everyone, while knowing that we will land up in the hands of Russia's puppets and there will be no democracy. The Reds make no pretence about their objectives. The West is full of hypocrisy and double standards. Because of that, the West is more insidious, its actions more devious, and its pressures more dangerous. We cannot let the West dictate our future."

STAR on Reform Alliance

Commenting on the defection of former National Party members, Johannesburg *The Star* in English says in an editorial on page 10: "For the present, the feeling of political freedom generated by the Nationalist breakaways serves an important function in breaking the logjam. We hope the growth of independent thought will help produce forward movement at the pace the country needs. But, very quickly, the adherents to any such reform alliance will have to group themselves more tightly. They must carry the momentum of change without becoming bogged down over minor differences of emphasis. That will be the task of leadership. The country needs a brave new leader now President Botha has lost the drive which marked his first years at the country's head."

STAR on OK Strike Settlement

Commenting on the settlement of the strike by OK Bazaars workers in a second editorial on the same page, *The Star* says both management and labor have cause to be proud: "What could have dragged on as an acrimonious quarrel was settled through the process of mediation. Both parties sat through marathon negotiation sessions and may have been tempted many times to walk away from the table. Instead they stuck it out and came away with an agreement. There is a lesson in that."

BUSINESS DAY Hails Industrial Relations

"The settlement that ended the 10-week strike by workers at OK Bazaars has demonstrated, once again, the capacity of the country's industrial machinery to handle even serious and emotionally charged conflicts," Johannesburg *Business Day* in English on 27 February says in an editorial on page 6. The country's industrial relations legislation "has created a forum for some of the most effective negotiation between blacks and whites in this country. Hundreds of agreements are struck annually, many of them eliminating points of social conflict that might, in the absence of such negotiation, spill over into social and political life. In effect, the unions are proving to be a substantial force for stability."

CAPE TIMES on Police Behavior

Commenting on a recent court case in which a woman was awarded compensation for her husband's death at the hands of a policeman who was later promoted and a parliamentary report that the police paid out 1.2 million rands to members of the public in compensation for assaults, Cape Town *Cape Times* in English on 26 February says in a page 6 editorial: "To maintain public confidence it is up to the police and military alike to apply stringent procedures to keep disgraceful behaviour to a minimum. If it does occur, disciplinary measures should be taken to maintain standards and to deter others. It would be reassuring to learn that the strictest standards are being upheld and that the public has no cause for alarm."

CAPE TIMES on Government's 'Obsession' With Separation

"Racism is an expensive business. And in the end, both voters and non-voters wind up paying for government's enduring obsession with racial compartmentalization," the *Cape Times* says in a second editorial on the same page. The government's "obsession with racial separation" also means that "no headway can be made in negotiation of the country's constitutional future. If the group principle and separate chambers are non-negotiable as far as the National Party is concerned, any question of negotiation with a wide range of significant black leaders is ruled out from the start. The truth is that compulsory group differentiation is the very foundation stone of white supremacy. Until white supremacy is relinquished as the goal, the problem will remain."

SOWETAN: More Township Evictions

"Residents of Zola township in Soweto, who have formed themselves into a fearsome township of resistance against the payment of rent, were evicted yesterday," reports Johannesburg *Sowetan* in English for 27 February in a page 6 editorial. "We believe the various councils do not want people to lose their homes. The bottom line is that they need the money to run the townships." But most people will not pay the rent in arrears unless "some arrangements are worked out." And, "only a fool would occupy a house from which the rightful residents are evicted. In other words the houses will have to remain empty." "What kind of thinking is this that makes some of our more hot-headed people believe the authorities are simply spoiling for a fight?"

CITY PRESS: Sowetan Council Crisis

"The Soweto Town council...is now gearing itself to getting deeper into debt by spending a whopping R4.5-million to buy houses for councillors," reports Johannesburg *City Press* in English for 1 March [date as published] in its page 2 editorial. "The crisis facing the Soweto Council is but a microcosm of the crisis facing the entire government policy on local authorities. Very few local authorities are in operation around the country." "They are seen as agents used by the government to implement the harsher aspects of apartheid and racial discrimination." "Until such time that our people have been granted their legitimate and democratic right to be part and parcel of the decision-making process, the problems of the legitimacy of local authorities in terms of government policy will continue unabated."

2 Mar Press Review

MB020739 [Editorial Report]

SUNDAY TIMES: NP Fails To Grasp White Disillusionment

"One thing is becoming increasingly clear: the National Party's chosen strategy of diverting attention away from pressing domestic issues and towards foreign meddling — Reds under the beds and what Foreign Minister Pik Botha disingenuously heralds as a new volksbeweging [Afrikaner people movement] — is failing," says a page 22 editorial in Johannesburg *Sunday Times* in English on 1 March. "The Government will play with things like early loan levy repayments, hints of big civil service pay rises, inquiries into the causes for inflation (yet again), Mossel Bay announcements and the unveiling of new weapons. None of this can be a substitute for a clear policy clearly presented." "The present administration has quite simply failed to grasp the extent of disillusionment among white South Africans on both the Left and Right." The paper does however, not believe that the NP is "in imminent danger of losing its hold on power," since "the attitudes and familiarities bred by nearly 40 long years in office cannot be overturned suddenly."

Protest Politics Limited

Brian Pottinger writes on the same page that former PFP leader Frederick van Zyl Slabbert "has chosen his forum. It is the Institute for a Democratic Alternative for South Africa and concentrates on providing inter-community 'facilitation'. Their most recent action is funding a court action to try to force the opening of Port Elizabeth's beaches to all race groups. This is noble but hardly dramatic. Neither does it bring us any closer to directing public reform sentiments: it ameliorates rather than mobilises." Pottinger says that the reform independents realize this and "that is why one arm of the strategy is aimed at fighting parliamentary seats." Pottinger also warns that South Africans, as never before, must guard against the sort of breathless optimism that initially allowed the Botha administration to 'sell' reform without once ever having to properly define it. The bellicosity of the Government, the puritanical zeal of some of the resistance ideologues and the continuing detention or exile of most of the black leadership corps make reasonably peaceful constitutional change extremely difficult and we must not underestimate the extent of the polarisation that has taken place in the last two years." South African dissidents will come to accept that "a mood does indeed need a forum, an institutional one, and that protest politics are really limited after the first 'No'."

Pakendorf Praises Independents

On page 23 Harald Pakendorf says in his "Another Voice" column that the independents have focused the election "in a different way to that intended by the Government." "We were, in fact, going to have P.W. Botha squaring up against, not only Ronald Reagan, but also Oliver Tambo. We were going to blame the ANC for all that is evil in white eyes." But, "the simple appearance of Wynand Malan and Denis Worrall has shaken the National Party. As has the appearance of Afrikaner academics who publicly dare to criticize." Pakendorf believes that "the election may in the end be about the burning issues in the country; namely, how do we accommodate, not if we accommodate, black political rights as well as white fears about coming changes?" "We have to realise that blaming others for our troubles is counter-productive. We have to look at ourselves and deal with what confronts us. Malan [former NP MP for Randburg] and Worrall [former ambassador to London] have helped us towards that end."

THE SUNDAY STAR on U.S.-Iran Arms Sale

"The damage to President Reagan's reputation from the report of the Tower Commission on Iran arms sales may not prove as terminal as in the case of Watergate, but it is bound to send shock waves far afield," notes the page 16 editorial in Johannesburg *The Sunday Star* in English on 1 March. "America survives such things, as it survived President Nixon — and part of that durability is the ability of U.S. democracy to purge itself of corruption and to do so in public view. In itself that is an object lesson to many more secretive societies, such as our own. It is to Mr Reagan's credit that he set up an inquiry so likely to reflect badly on himself. Perhaps that honesty may yet salvage some hope for his last spell of office."

THE SUNDAY STAR on NP Dissension

"The current revolt in the National Party is not the first the Nats have experienced on their Left in protest at the Government's race policies," notes political correspondent David Breier on page 16 of *The Sunday Star*. "But there is a widely held view that earlier rebellions were merely false starts, and this one is the real thing." "The present revolt is nation-wide and not localised, as were the earlier outbursts. Afrikaans academics from Stellenbosch, Free State, RAU [Rand Afrikaans University] and Pretoria have announced they no longer support the NP. And more important, the current rebellion is not confined to academics. Business and professional people have joined it." "The current generation of dissenters questions not only the pace of reform, but also the basis of Governemnt policy — 'group rights.'"

Government No Intention of Real Reform

Gerard van Niekerk says on the same page that "Wynand Malan is at a dead end because there is no place for an independent in South African politics, says political scientist Professor Willem Kleynhans," who "was the first 'liberal' to break from the National Party. He and 12 other academics left in May 1955, denouncing the NP's decision on coloured voters." "Commenting on the election, Professor Kleynhans said the Government had no intention of real reform. 'Anything which does not include black people in the central Government is not only a waste of time but politically dangerous,' he said. He believes the main opposition parties on the Left and the Right can find common ground and form election pacts. He predicts the NP stands to lose considerable support if the opposition decides to 'team up' against them."

No Clarity on Worrall Policy

"Everything from the latest opinion polls, the 'New Nat' revolt, street surveys and pub talk seems to indicate a general dissatisfaction with the Government," says David Breier on the same page. "Dr Worrall, sitting thousands of kilometres away in London but receiving intelligence from South Africa, judged the mood prefectly." Worrall also seems to have chosen the perfect issue: "the white minority cannot continue to dominate the black majority." "Political observers from all spectrums say they are waiting to see whether he presents his alternative in clearer language than that of his notoriously obscure opponent, Mr Heunis [Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning]. So far many have found his language more elegant, but equally dense."

NUM Congress Strengthens Alliance

Mike Siluma writes on the same page: "At the National Union of Mineworkers' (NUM) fifth annual congress in Johannesburg, prominent union and anti-apartheid leaders not only shared a platform for the first time since the start of the emergency, they clearly committed themselves to a new and powerful alliance of worker organisations and compatible anti-apartheid groups." Siluma says it was made clear at the conference that the vision of the organizations of a solution for South Africa "had little to do with capitalism." "The position taken at the NUM congress, together with the fact that the emergency is still in force, could see a major test of strength this year between anti-government forces and the State."

UDF Recognition of Parliamentary Politics

"United Democratic Front 'comrades' in detention have smuggled messages from jail to Progressive Federal Party MPS appealing to them not to abandon their struggle against apartheid from within Parliament," says David Breier on the same page. "This development forms part of a significant shift in thinking in UDF circles toward accepting the relevance of parliamentary politics as part of the process of ending apartheid." Breier also notes that the "current shift towards recognizing parliamentary politics as part of the struggle against apartheid has also taken shape in the Black Sash which has observer status in the UDF."

THE SUNDAY STAR: Sanctions Election Issue

"Sanctions and disinvestment are likely to be an election issue," says Harry Schwarz in his "Talking Cents" column on page 3 of the "Review" section of *The Sunday Star*. "In an election of the white House of Assembly this is somewhat illogical as there is no one of the Parties participating which supports sanctions and disinvestment. It is however, a convenient tactic to divert attention from real issues and no amount of trying will prevent the election being fought against the enemy from without in the form of the United States."

BEELD Supports Mixed Theaters

A page 10 editorial in Johannesburg *Beeld* in Afrikaans on 27 February says it believes that "history will still show that the battle in Pretoria about the multiracial opening of 11 theaters is actually an unnecessary waste of emotion, time and energy." The paper hopes that Pietersburg, where a decision also has to be made about mixed theaters, will begin to "realize that a matter such as entertainment cannot be put forward as the last fortress of white Afrikanerdom." "The fact of the matter is that people do not go to theaters to protest, just as believers do not go to church to throw stones."

DIE VADERLAND Warns Sports Community

A page 14 editorial in Johannesburg *Die Vaderland* in Afrikaans on 26 February comments on the appeal by the sports community to the government to continue with reform. "Reform yes, but what sort of reform do these sports people have in mind which will be sufficient for Russia and the ANC and other radical pressure groups to acknowledge South Africa once again in international sport. No one must be so naive as to believe that these organizations will be satisfied with anything less than total black domination." The paper urges the members of the international sports community to "reject the radical black demands for what they are: black majority government."

ZIMBABWE

Minister on Exclusion of CAZ From Parliament

MB271035 Harare THE HERALD in English 20 Feb 87 p 1

[Report: "Minister Spells out CAZ [Conservative Alliance of Zimbabwe] Future — by political editor]

[Text] The Government is to speed up legislation this year to exclude the Conservative Alliance of Zimbabwe [CAZ] from

Parliament because of the activities and tactics of the party's leader, Mr Ian Smith, the Minister of Information, Posts and Telecommunications, Dr Nathan Shamuyarira, said in Harare yesterday.

Reacting to the CAZ leader's recent advice to racist South Africa on how to beat economic sanctions, he told *The Herald* and the ZBC: "Later this year, the Government will be putting constitutional changes before Parliament which are intended to legislate the CAZ out of Parliament," so that the party "should have no role to play whatsoever in Zimbabwe."

The white seats can be abolished soon and all voters put on the common roll.

He said since independence the Government had treated the whites in Zimbabwe as any other ordinary citizens and that was "as it should be".

"But as citizens we expect support and loyalty from them and by and large the Prime Minister has received that support and loyalty from all sections of the European population," he said.

He said he hoped the whites would not be misled by the activities of Mr Smith.

"We think that Mr Smith's activities and advice to a foriegn power like South Africa on how to defeat economic sanctions which are being supported by his own Government is the height of disloyalty, and disrespect for the Government and people of Zimbabwe."

Addressing South African businessmen last week, Mr Smith urged racist South Africa to unite as white Rhodesians had done for 15 years to beat sanctions.

Cde Shamuyarira said the CAZ leader was biting the hand that fed him and added: "I want to put it quite cearly that the new political order in Zimbabwe has no place for the views of Ian Smith.

"He has made himself a fifth columnist in Zimbabwe who for 16 years misled the Europeans into the blind alley of UDI and now wants to lead them into another blind alley," the minister said.

He said he hoped the whites would not follow Mr Smith again this time because if they did it would be "an act of folly and an act of reneging on their Zimbabwean citizenship".

Cde Shamuyarira said that it would also be "foolhardy" for the Boers in South Africa to take the views of a defeated man — a man who had failed to achieve the objectives he had set for himself.